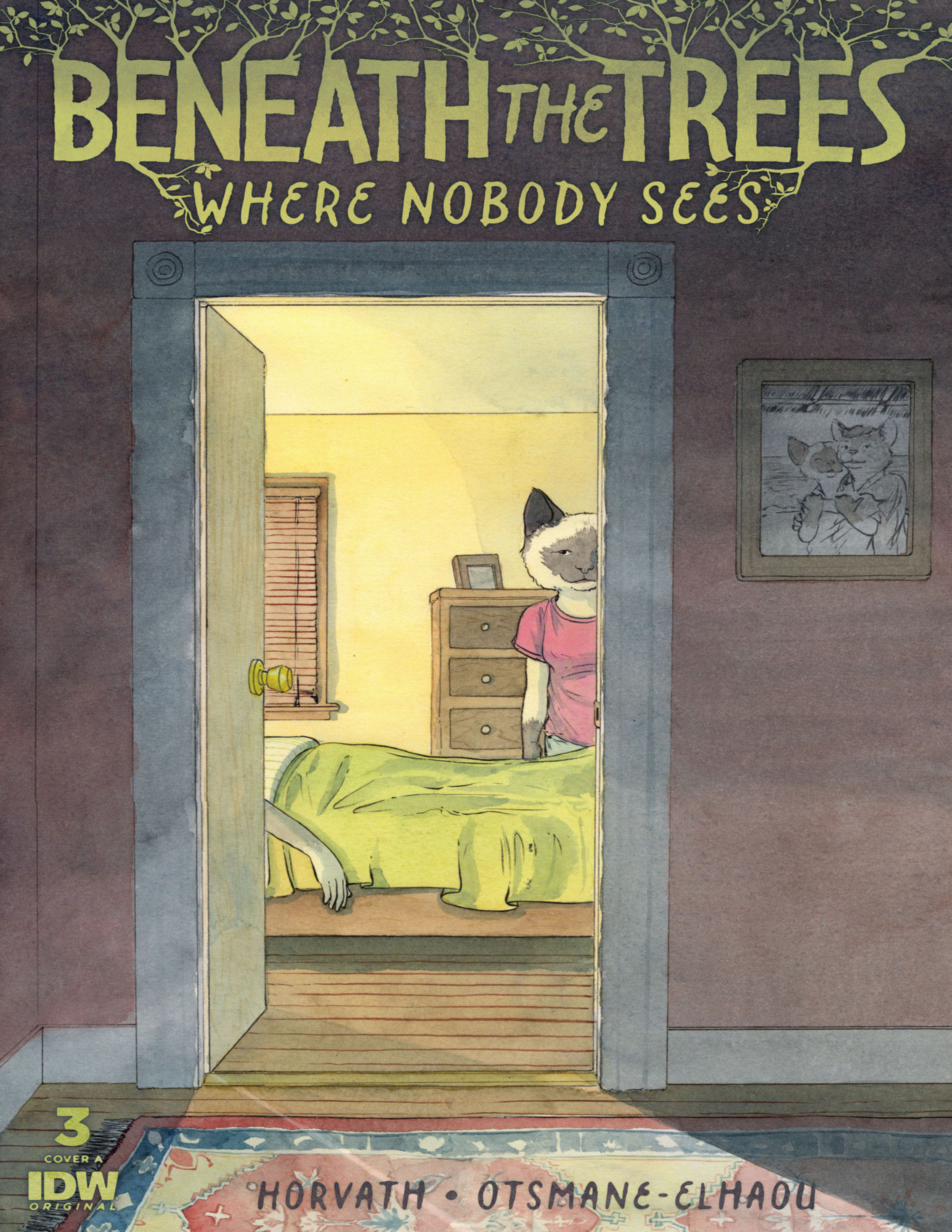
BENEATH THE TREES WHERE NOBODY SEES



3

COVER A

HORVATH • OTSMANE-ELHAOU

★★★
ALL THE
NEWS THAT'S
KEEN TO
BE SEEN
★★★

WOODBROOK WANDERER

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VOLUME SEVEN | MONDAY OCTOBER 01, [illegible] | NUMBER THREE

KILLER STRIKES AGAIN

OUTSPOKEN LOCAL FIGURE FOUND DECAPITATED AT GRUESOME SCENE

POLICE BAFFLED. BELIEVE KILLER MAY BE TAUNTING THE FRIGHTENED COMMUNITY

WRITTEN AND
ILLUSTRATED BY:
Patrick Horvath

LETTERS BY:
Hassan Otsmane-Elhaou

EDITOR:
Maggie Howell

ASSISTANT EDITOR:
Jake Williams

PRODUCTION AND DESIGN BY:
Nathan Widick

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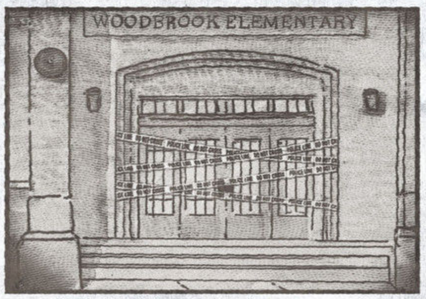
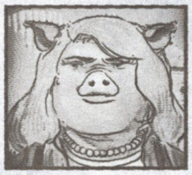
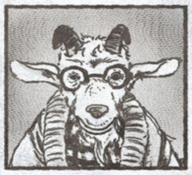
Ace Peacock
FINE FASHIONS
25% OFF ALL WEEK







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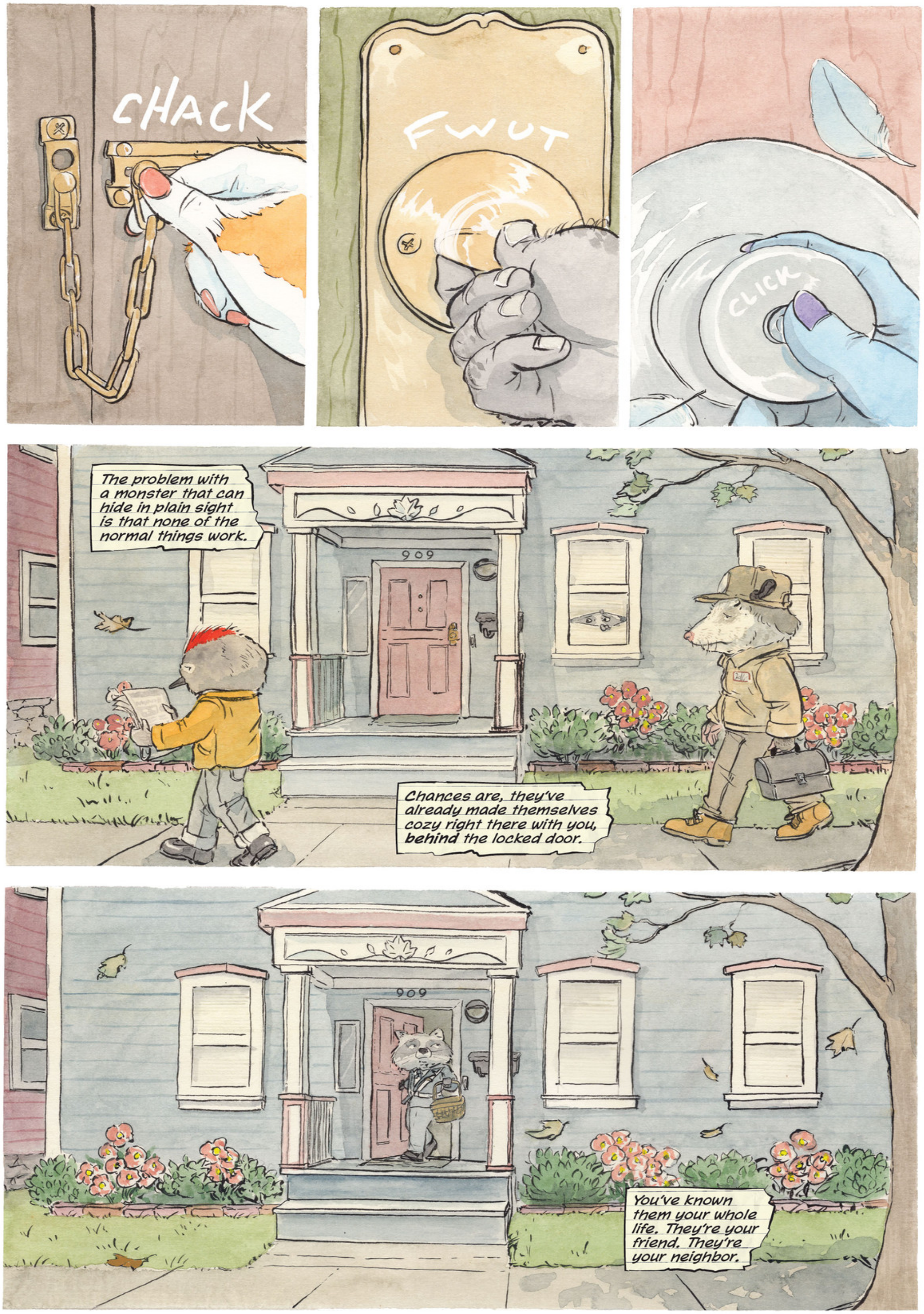
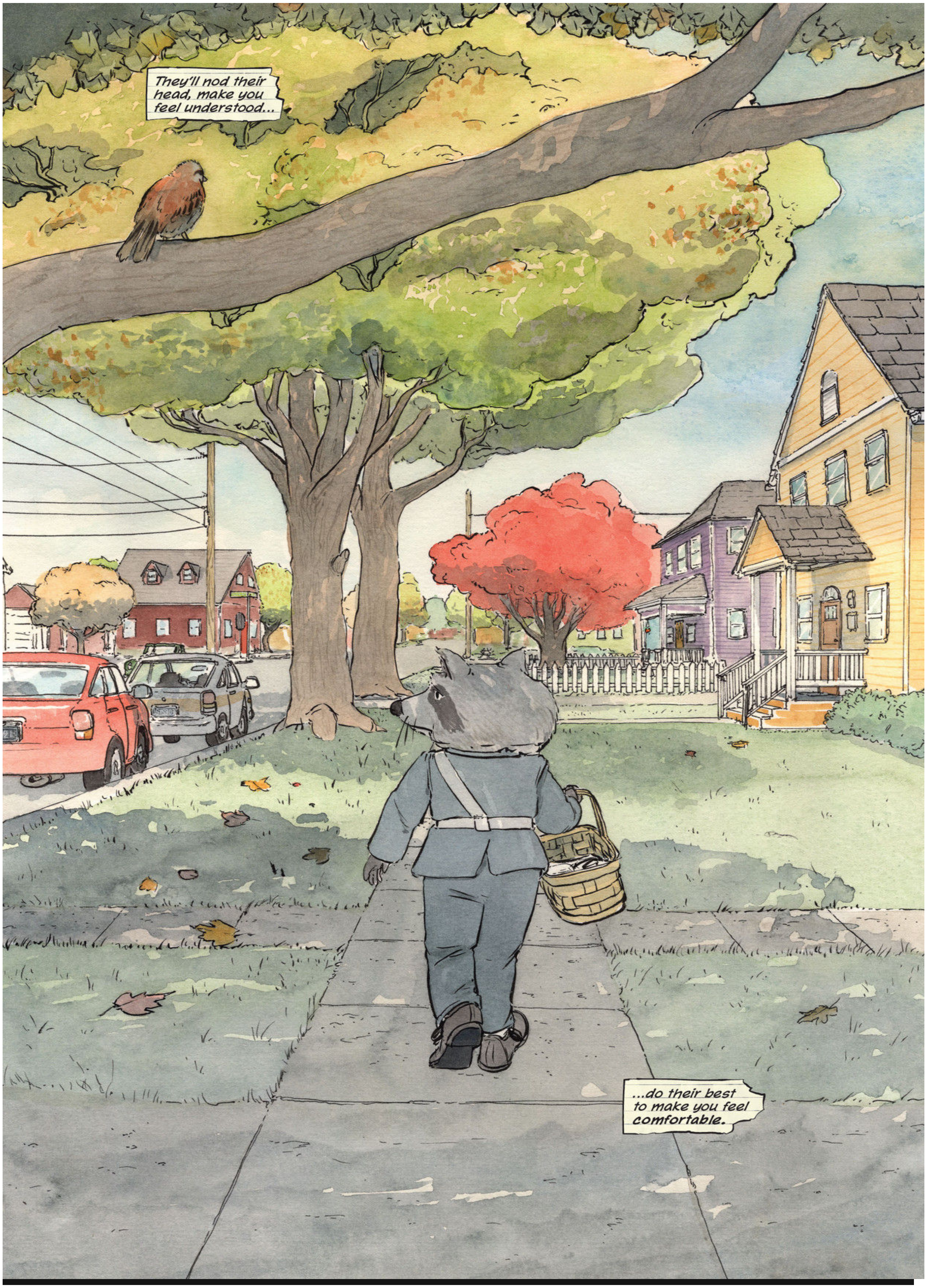
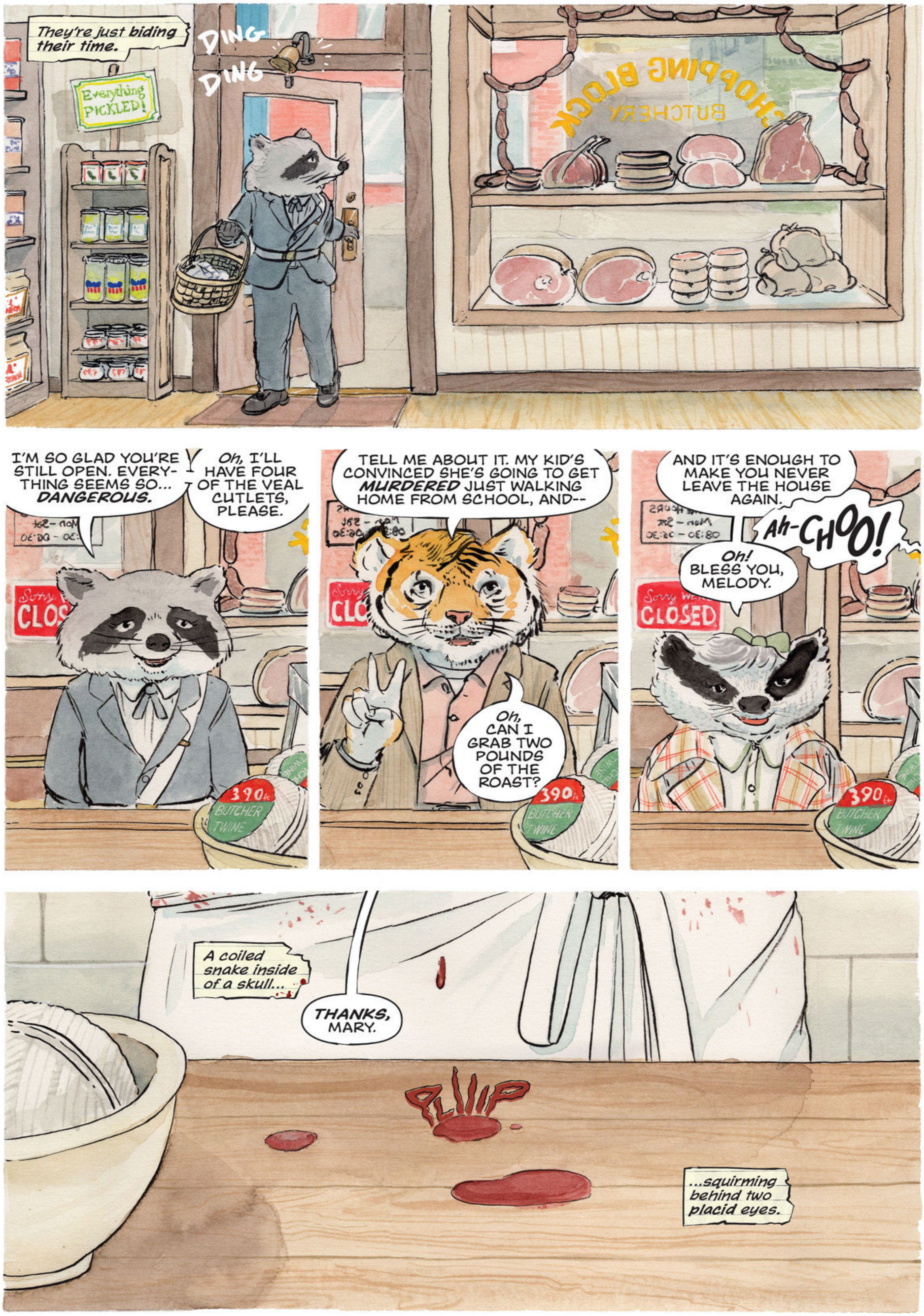
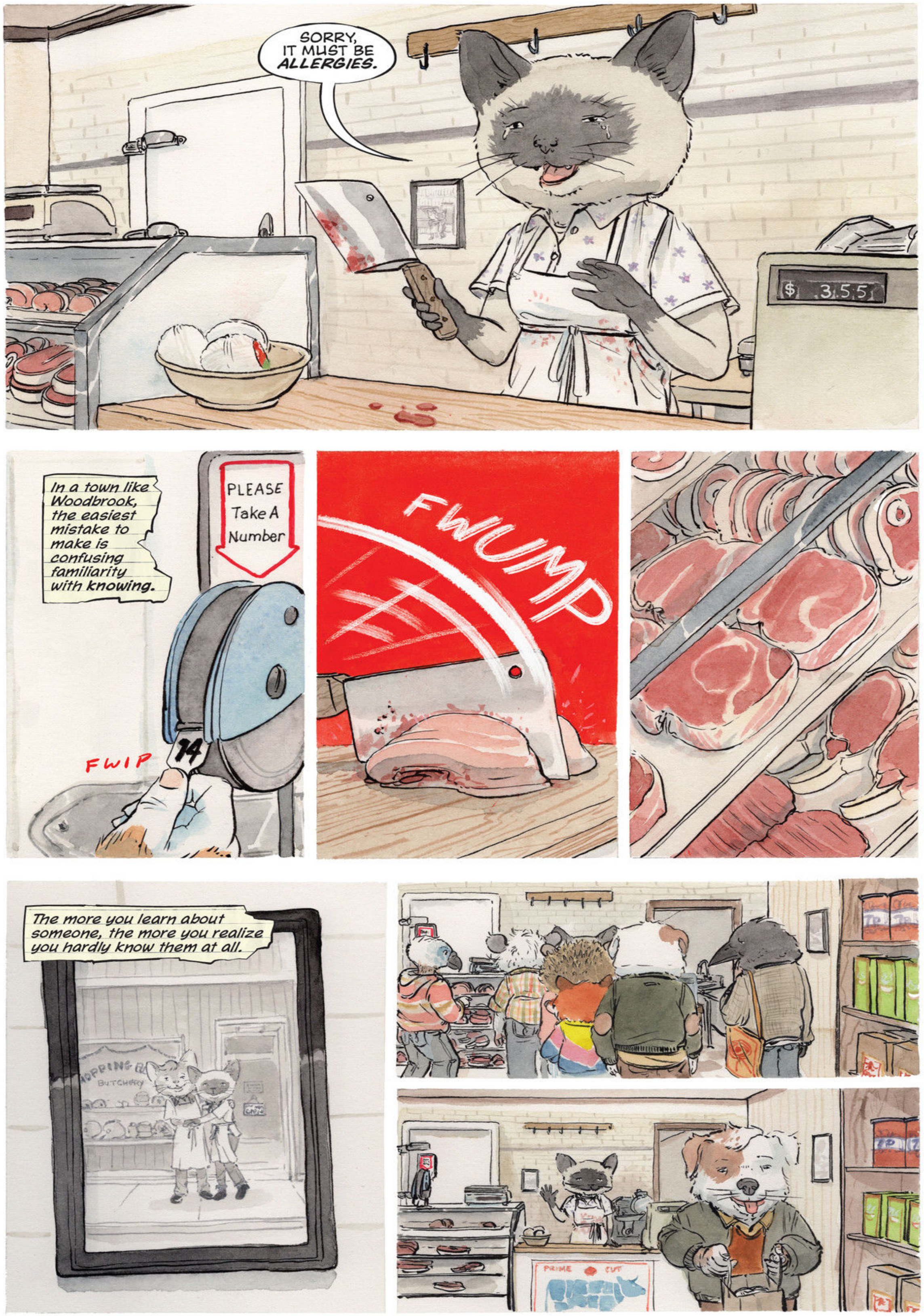
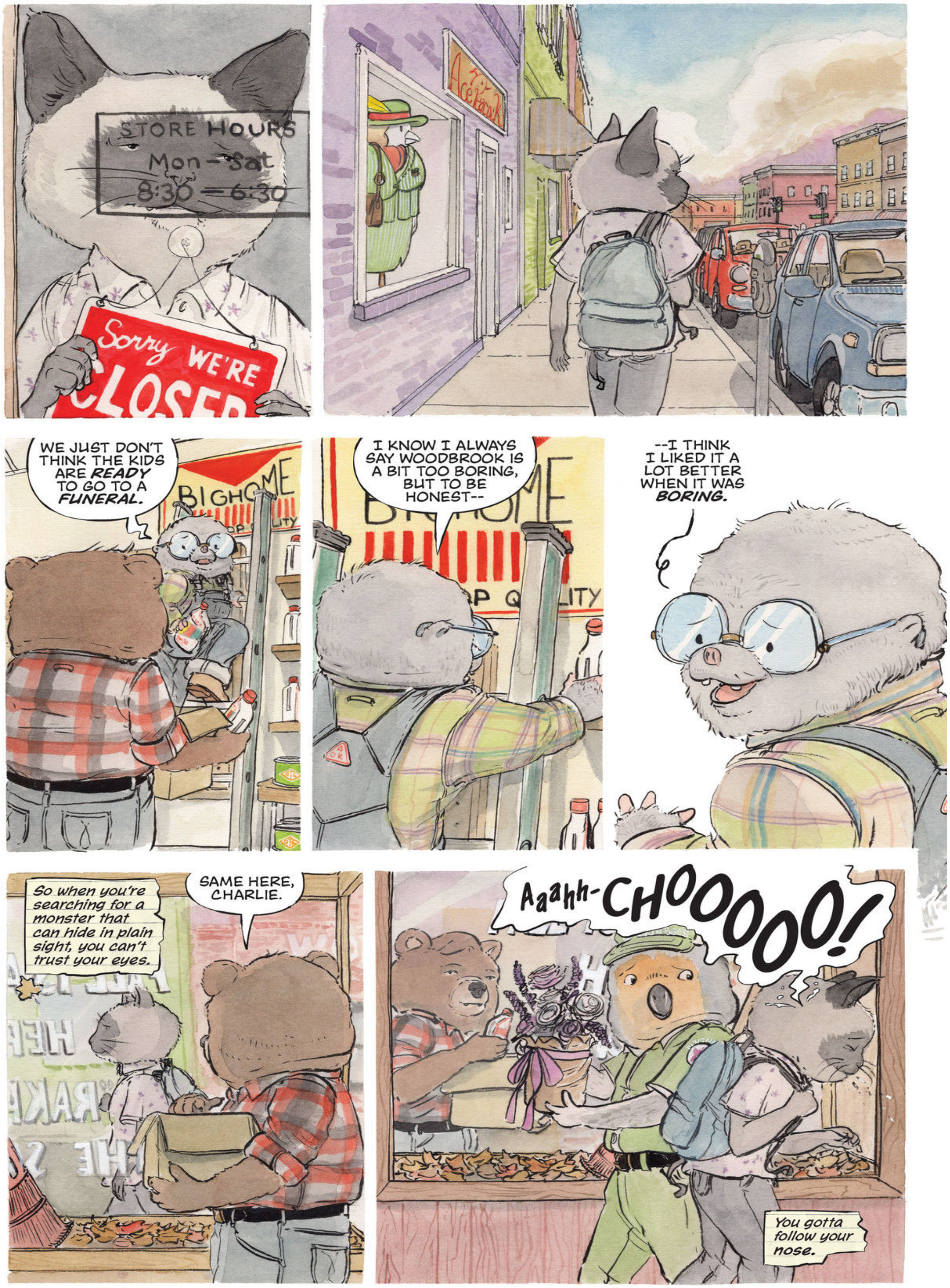
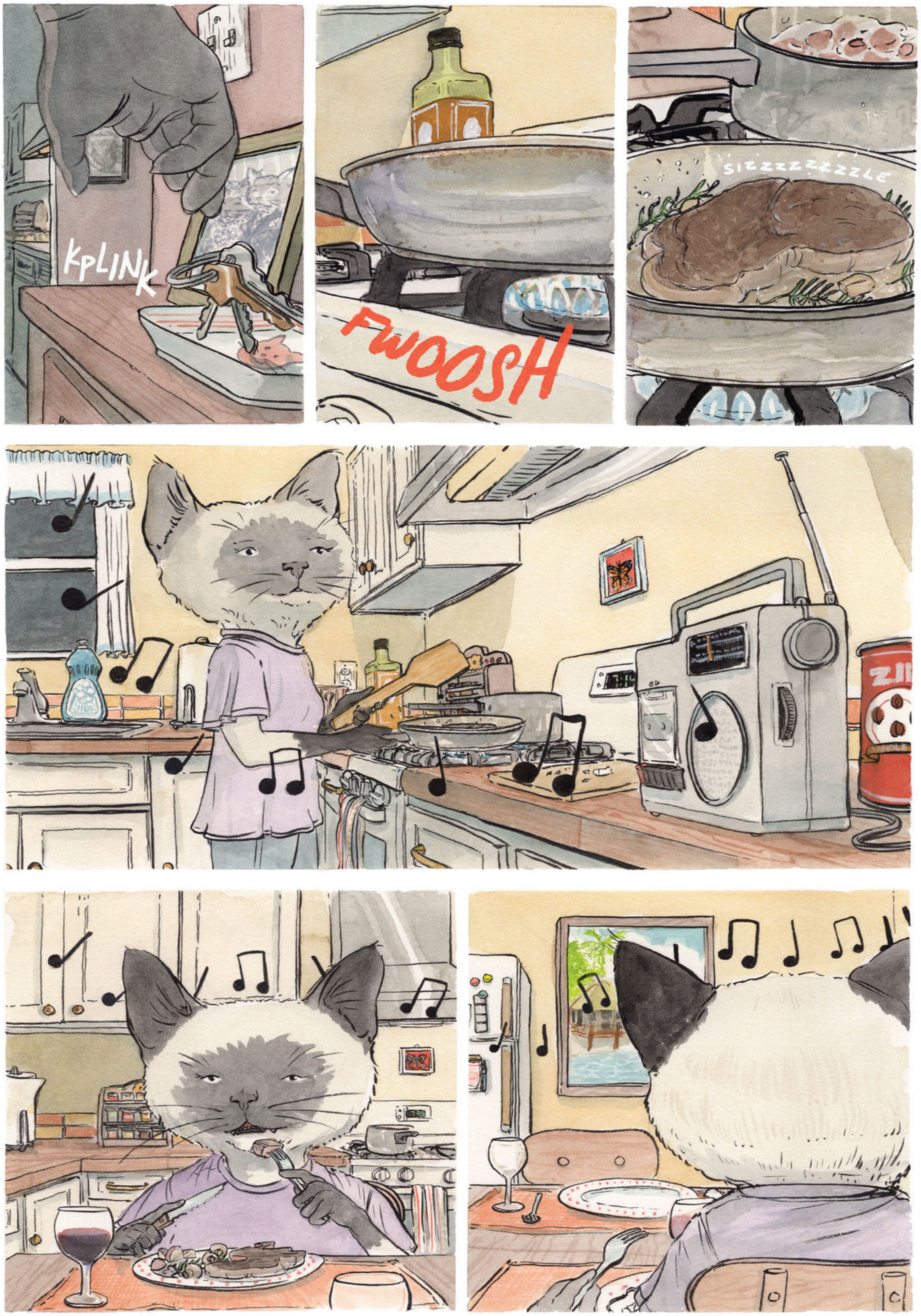

CHACK
FWUT
CLICK
The problem with a monster that can hide in plain sight is that none of the normal things work.
909
Chances are, they've already made themselves cozy right there with you, **behind** the locked door.
909
You've known them your whole life. They're your friend. They're your neighbor.

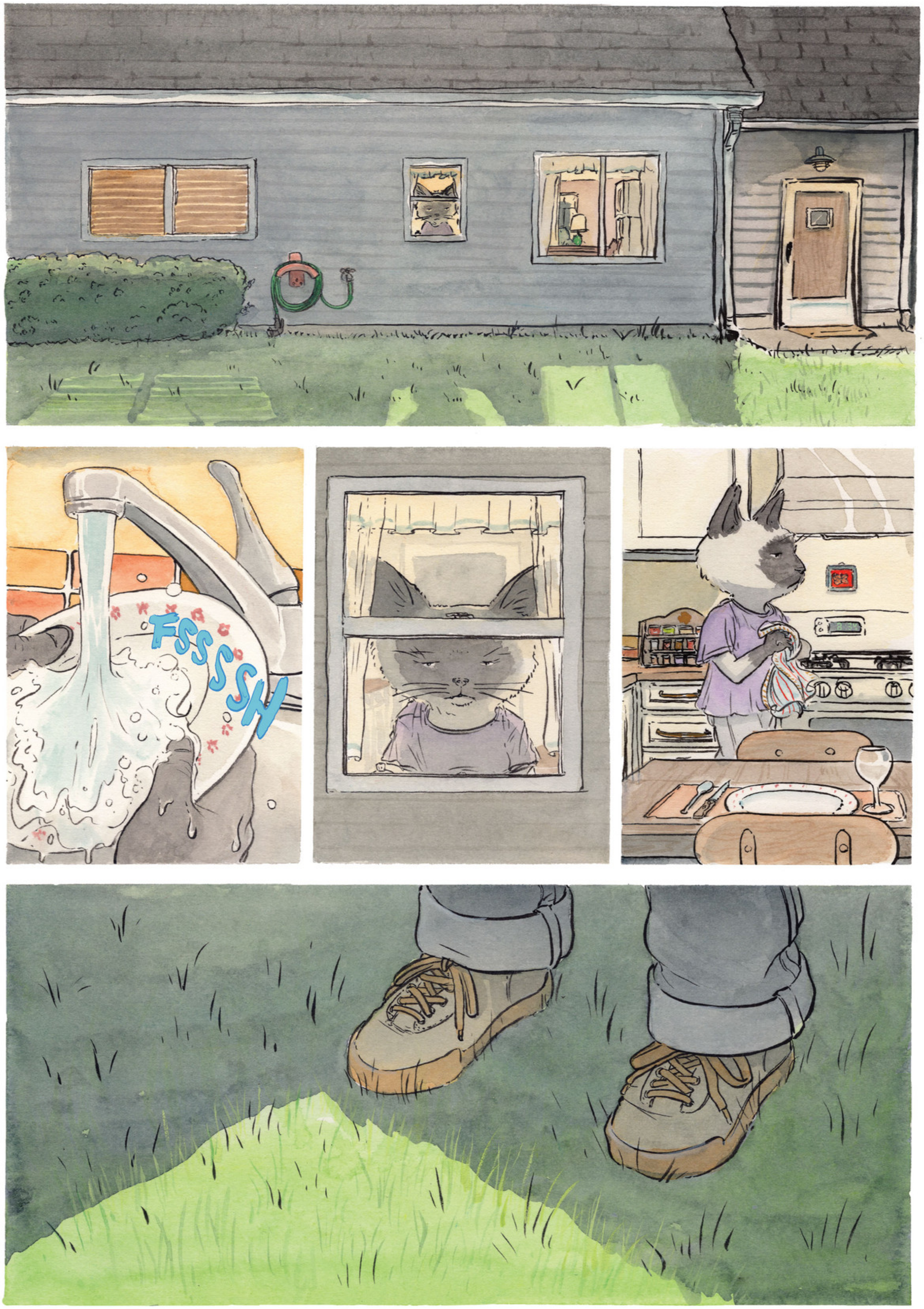

They'll nod their head, make you feel understood...
...do their best to make you feel comfortable.

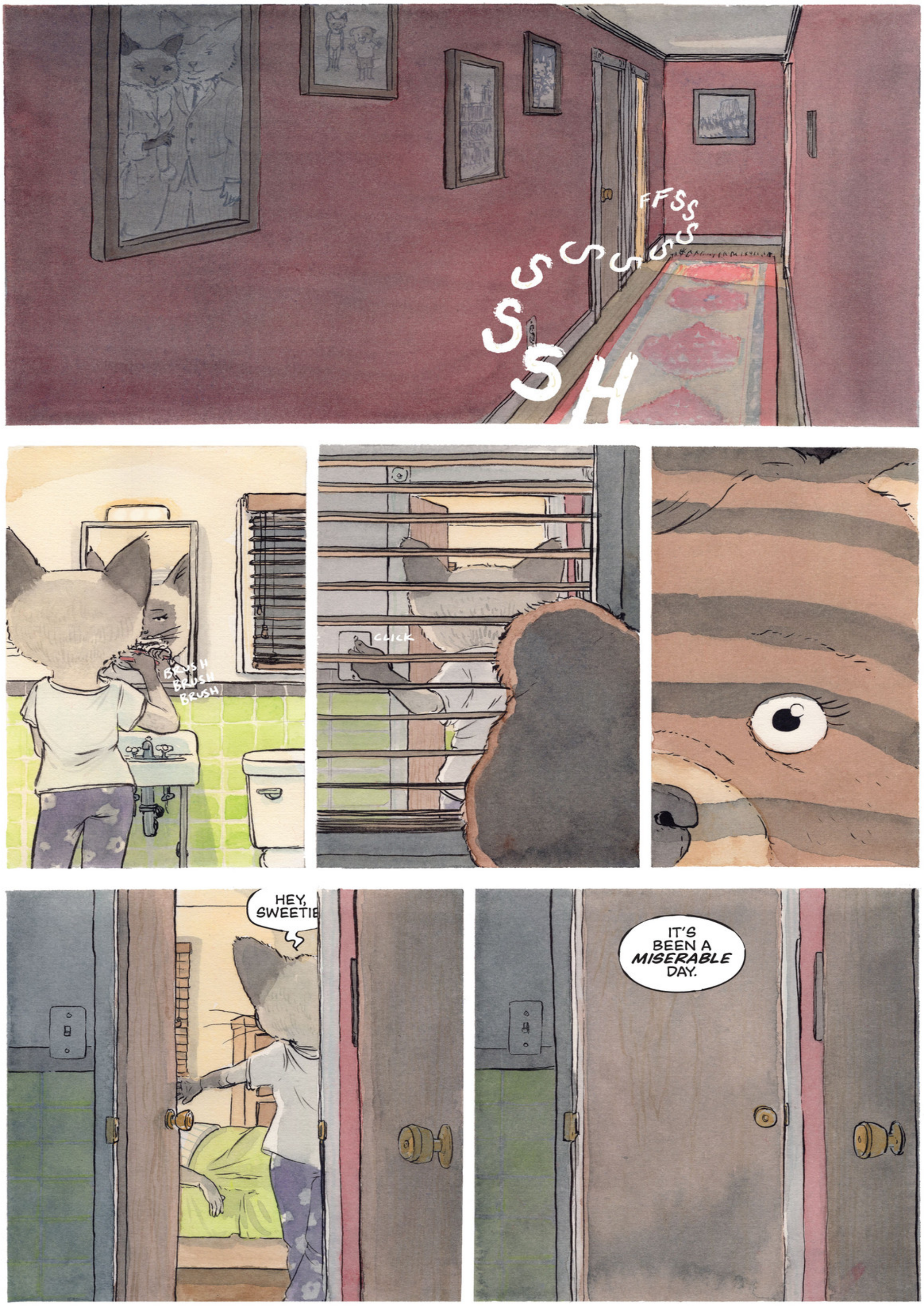

They're just biding their time.
DING
DING
Everything PICKLED!
CHOPPING BLOCK
BUTCHERY
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE STILL OPEN. EVERYTHING SEEMS SO... **DANGEROUS.**
Oh, I'LL HAVE FOUR OF THE VEAL CUTLETS, PLEASE.
CLOS
390¢
BUTCHER TWINE
TELL ME ABOUT IT. MY KID'S CONVINCED SHE'S GOING TO GET **MURDERED** JUST WALKING HOME FROM SCHOOL, AND--
Oh, CAN I GRAB TWO POUNDS OF THE ROAST?
390¢
BUTCHER TWINE
AND IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU NEVER LEAVE THE HOUSE AGAIN.
AH-CHOO!
Oh! BLESS YOU, MELODY.
CLOSED
390¢
BUTCHER TWINE
A coiled snake inside of a skull...
THANKS, MARY.
PLIP
...squirming behind two placid eyes.

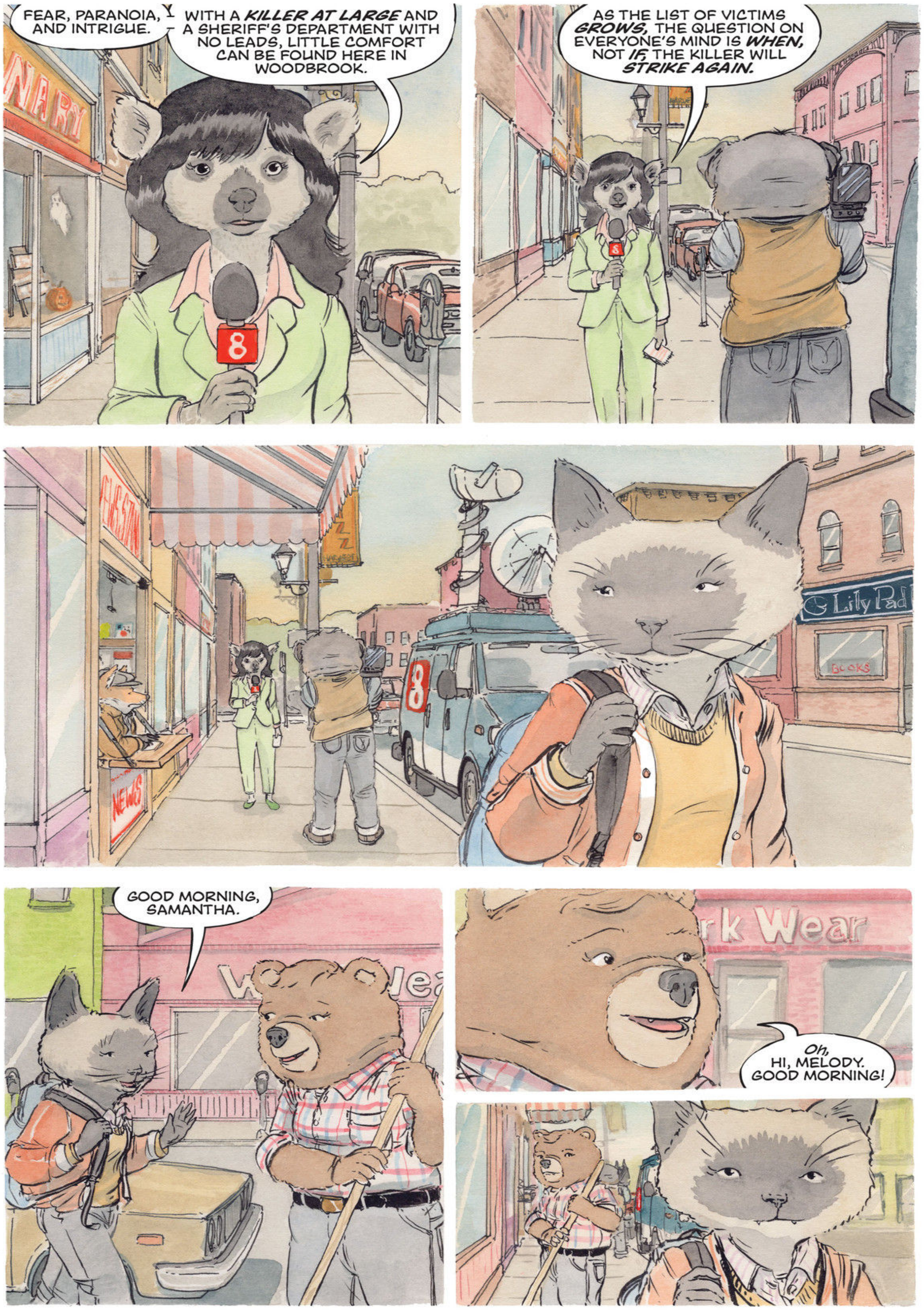

SORRY, IT MUST BE ALLERGIES.
$ 3.55
In a town like Woodbrook, the easiest mistake to make is confusing familiarity with knowing.
PLEASE Take A Number
FWIP
14
FWUMP
The more you learn about someone, the more you realize you hardly know them at all.
BUTCHERY
PRIME CUT

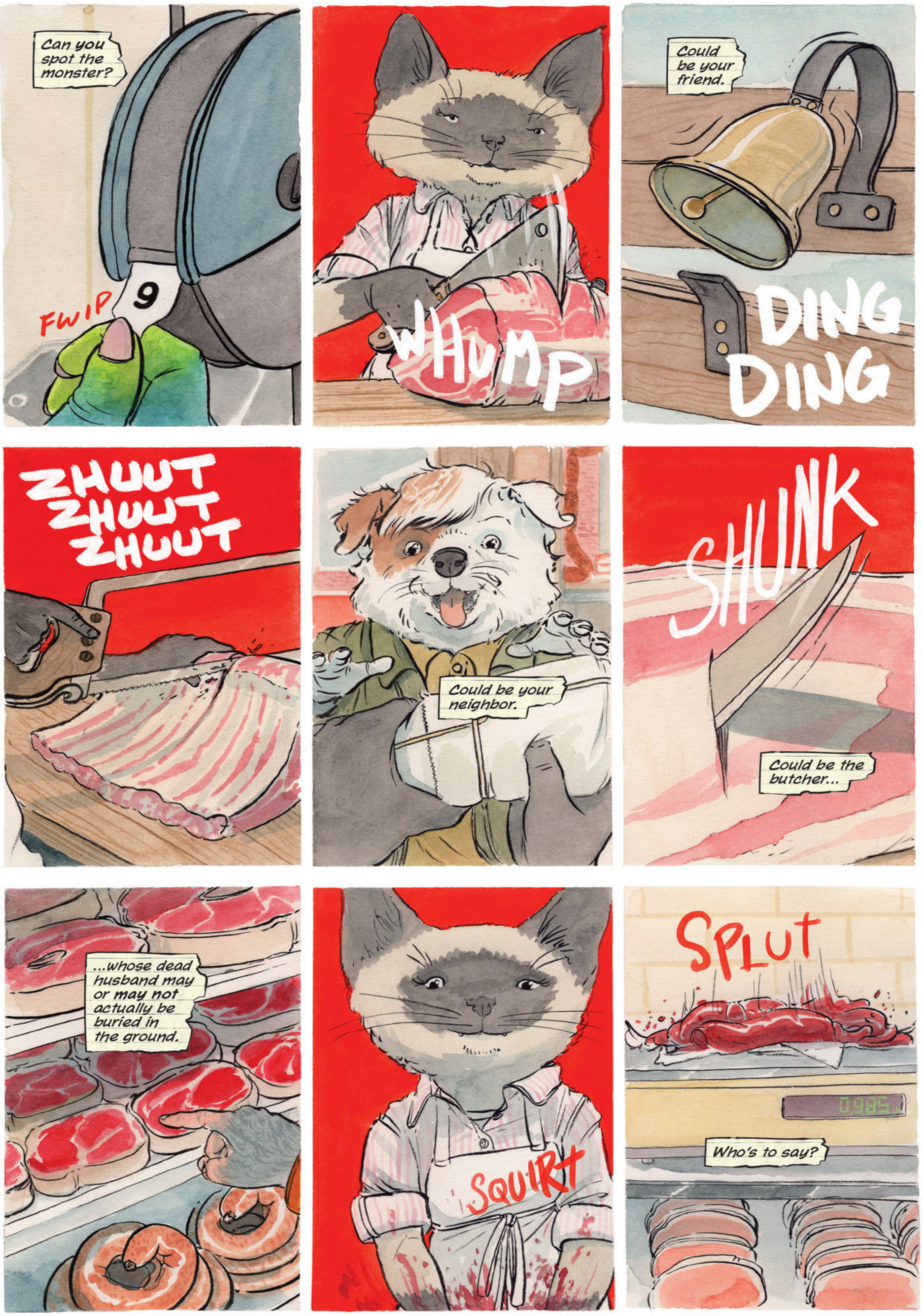

STORE HOURS
Mon – Sat
8:30 – 6:30
Sorry WE'RE CLOSE
WE JUST DON'T THINK THE KIDS ARE *READY* TO GO TO A *FUNERAL.*
I KNOW I ALWAYS SAY WOODBROOK IS A BIT TOO BORING, BUT TO BE HONEST--
--I THINK I LIKED IT A LOT BETTER WHEN IT WAS *BORING.*
So when you're searching for a monster that can hide in plain sight, you can't trust your eyes.
SAME HERE, CHARLIE.
Aaahh-CHOOOOOO!
You gotta follow your nose.

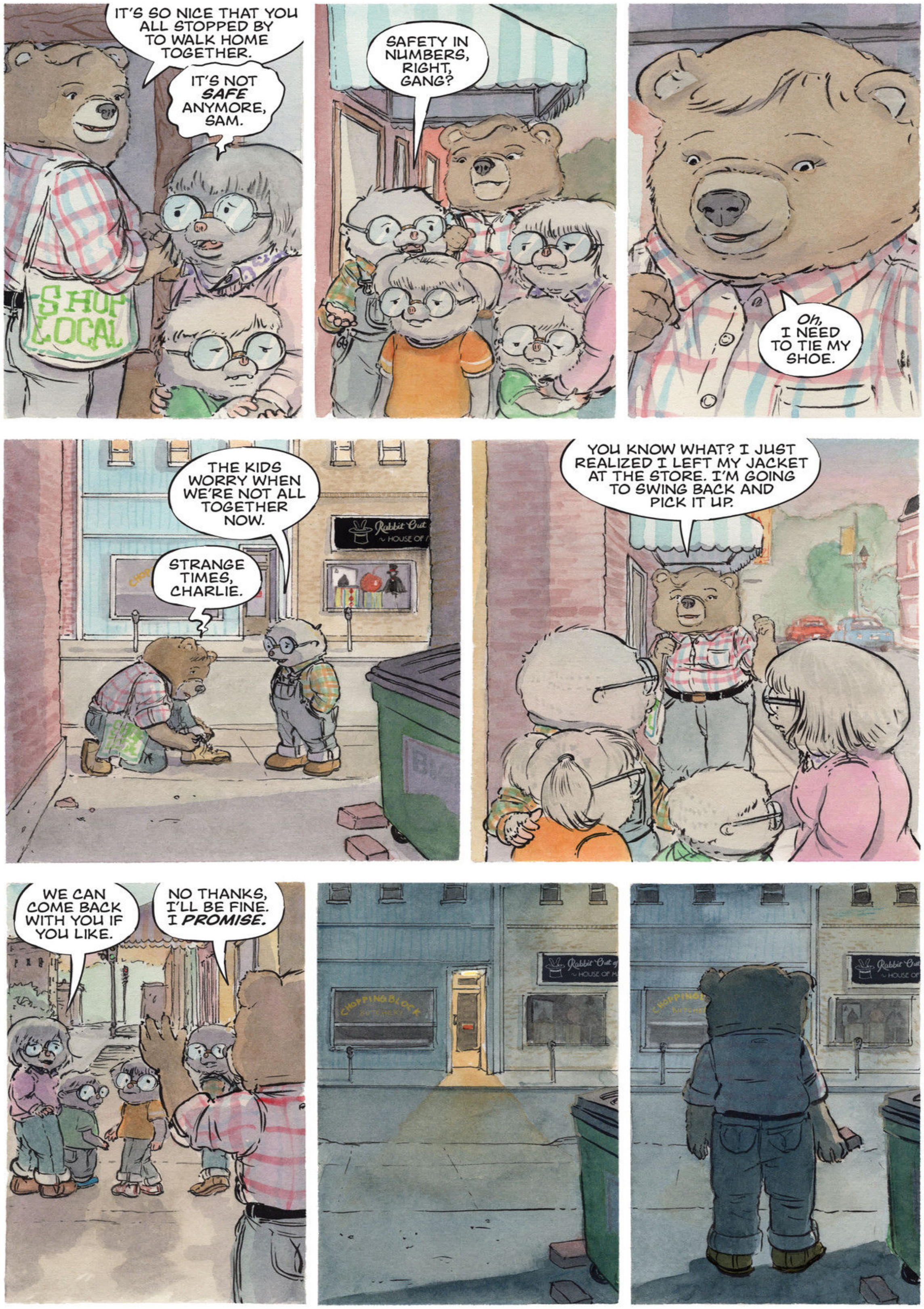

KPLINK
FWOOSH
SIZZZZZZZZZLE
ZI

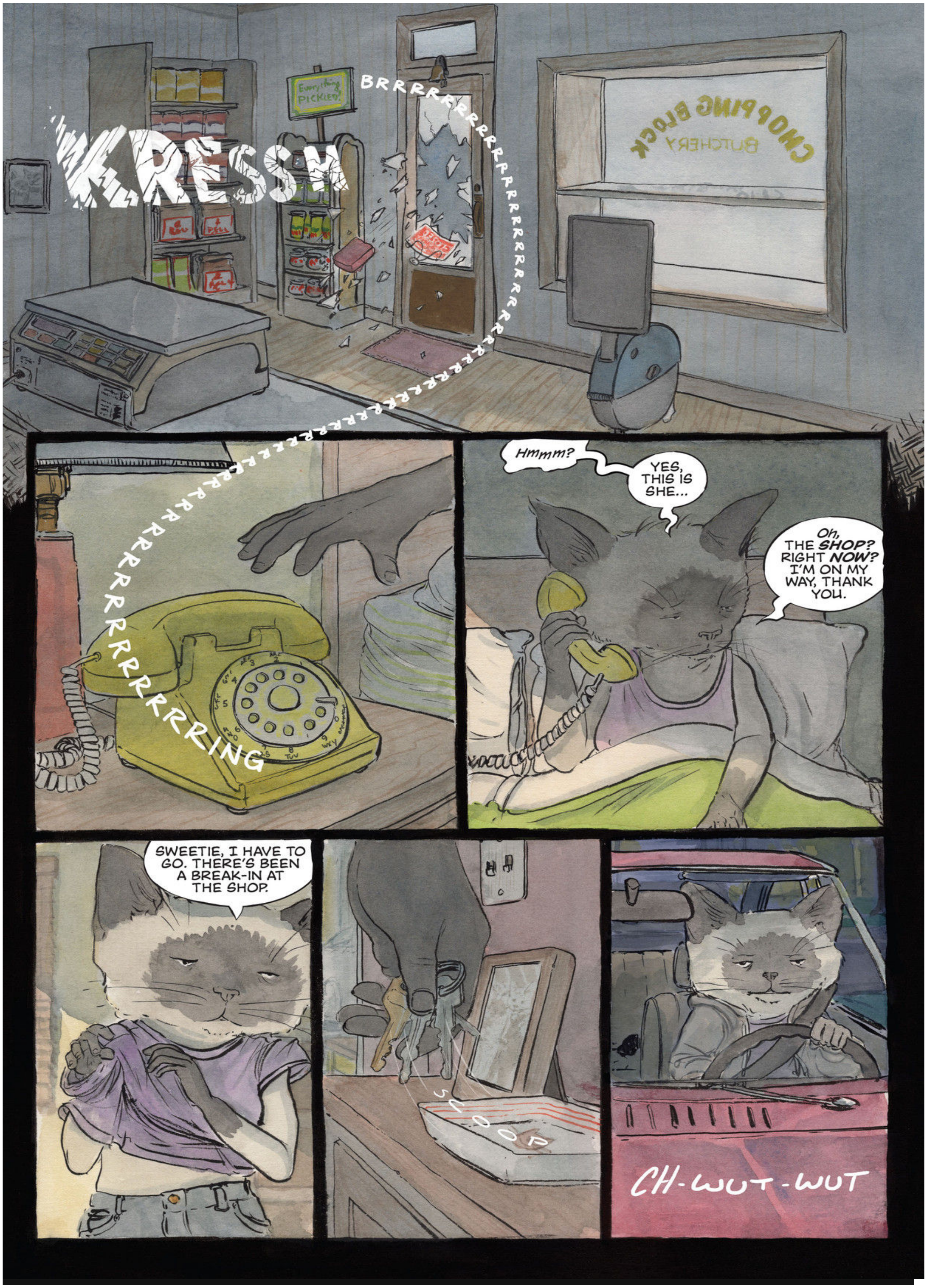

FSSSSH

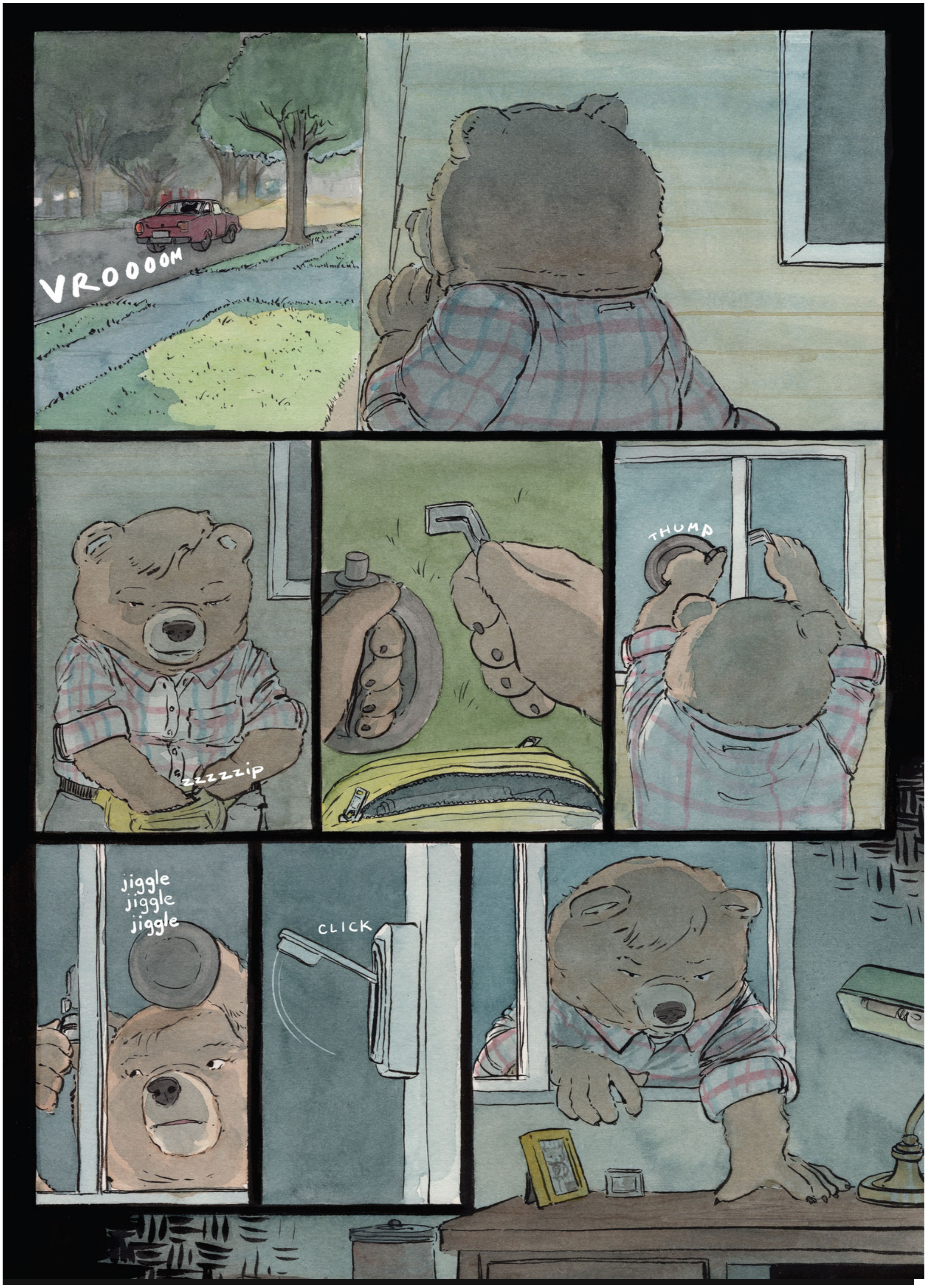

FFSSSSSSSSSH
BRUSH
BRUSH
BRUSH
CLICK
HEY, SWEETIE
IT'S BEEN A *MISERABLE* DAY.

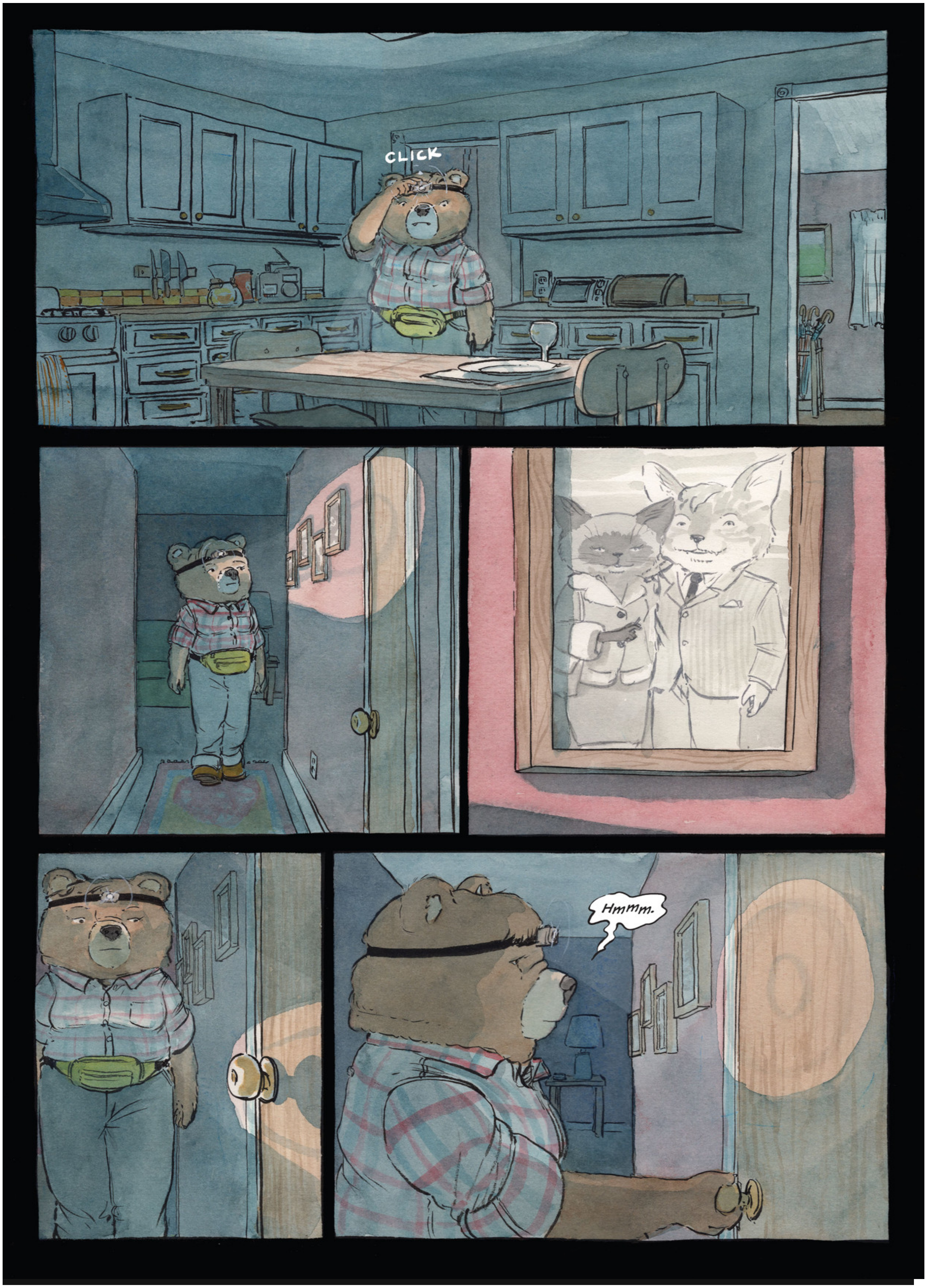

FEAR, PARANOIA, AND INTRIGUE.
WITH A *KILLER AT LARGE* AND A SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT WITH NO LEADS, LITTLE COMFORT CAN BE FOUND HERE IN WOODBROOK.
8
AS THE LIST OF VICTIMS *GROWS,* THE QUESTION ON EVERYONE'S MIND IS *WHEN,* NOT *IF,* THE KILLER WILL *STRIKE AGAIN.*
8
Lily Pad
BOOKS
NEWS
GOOD MORNING, SAMANTHA.
rk Wear
Oh, HI, MELODY. GOOD MORNING!

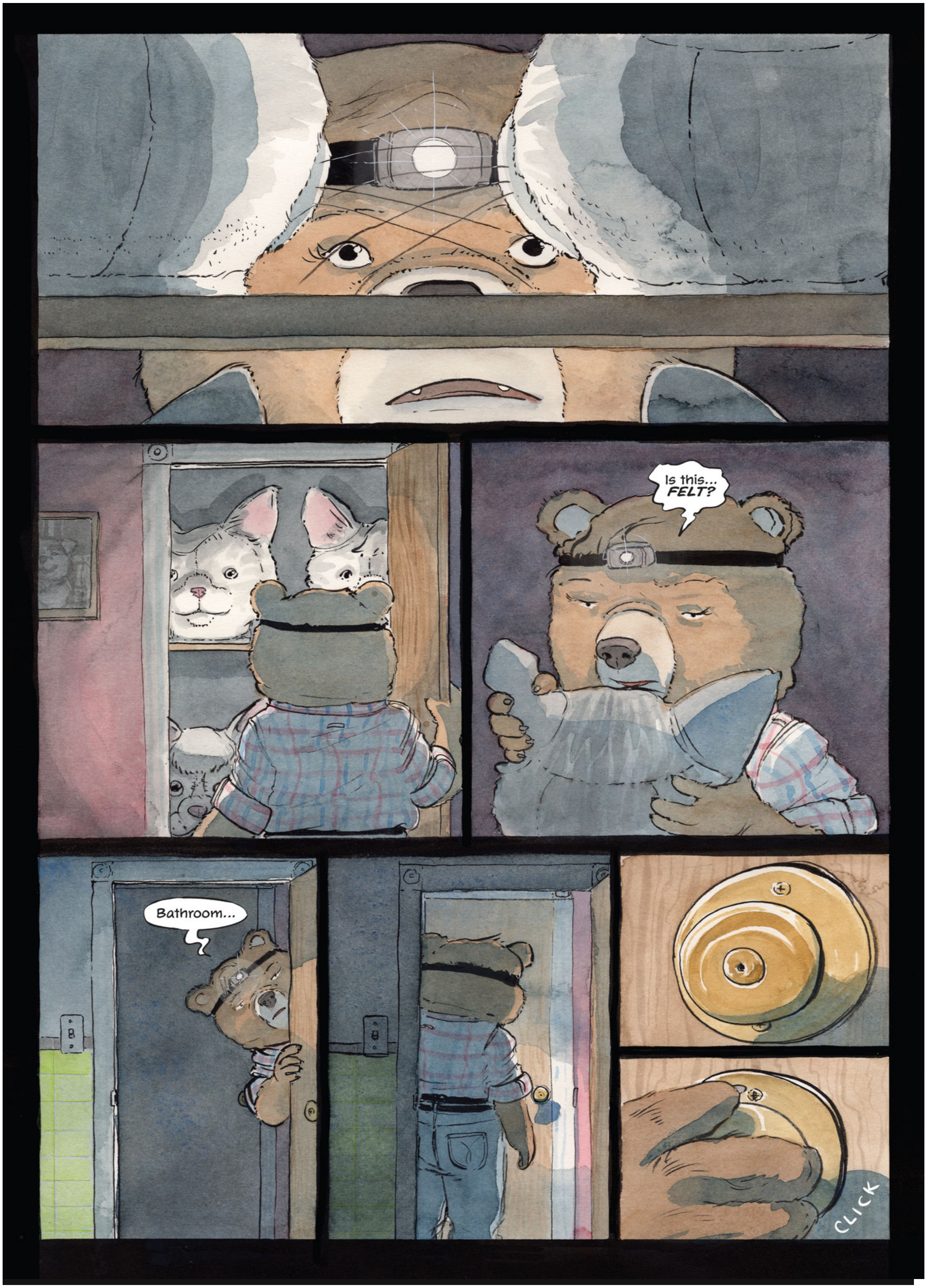

Can you spot the monster?
FWIP
9
WHUMP
Could be your friend.
DING DING
ZHUUT ZHUUT ZHUUT
Could be your neighbor.
SHUNK
Could be the butcher...
...whose dead husband may or may not actually be buried in the ground.
SQUIRT
SPLUT
0.985
Who's to say?

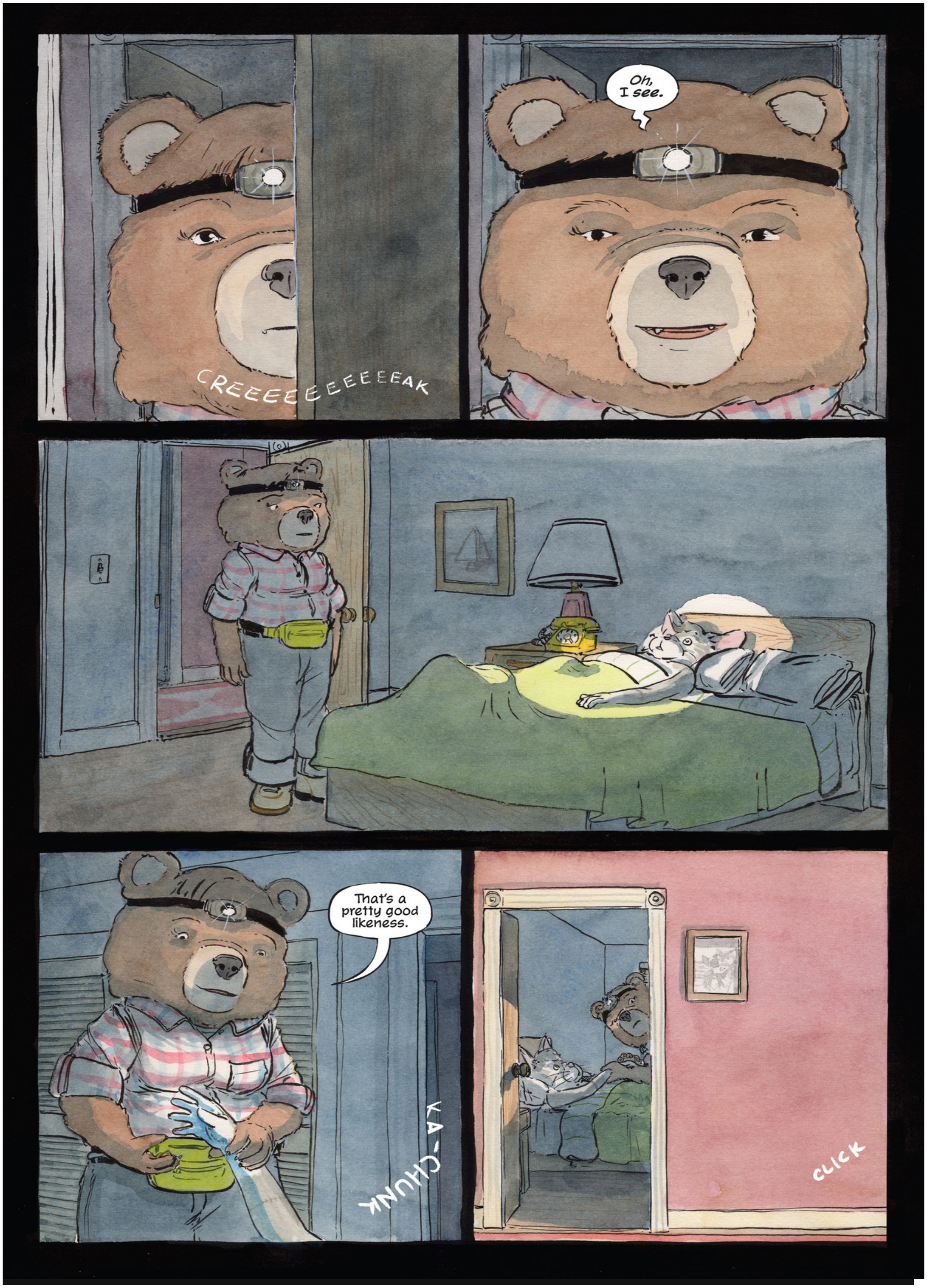

IT'S SO NICE THAT YOU ALL STOPPED BY TO WALK HOME TOGETHER.
IT'S NOT *SAFE* ANYMORE, SAM.
SHOP LOCAL
SAFETY IN NUMBERS, RIGHT, GANG?
Oh, I NEED TO TIE MY SHOE.
THE KIDS WORRY WHEN WE'RE NOT ALL TOGETHER NOW.
STRANGE TIMES, CHARLIE.
YOU KNOW WHAT? I JUST REALIZED I LEFT MY JACKET AT THE STORE. I'M GOING TO SWING BACK AND PICK IT UP.
WE CAN COME BACK WITH YOU IF YOU LIKE.
NO THANKS, I'LL BE FINE. I *PROMISE.*
CHOPPING BLOCK

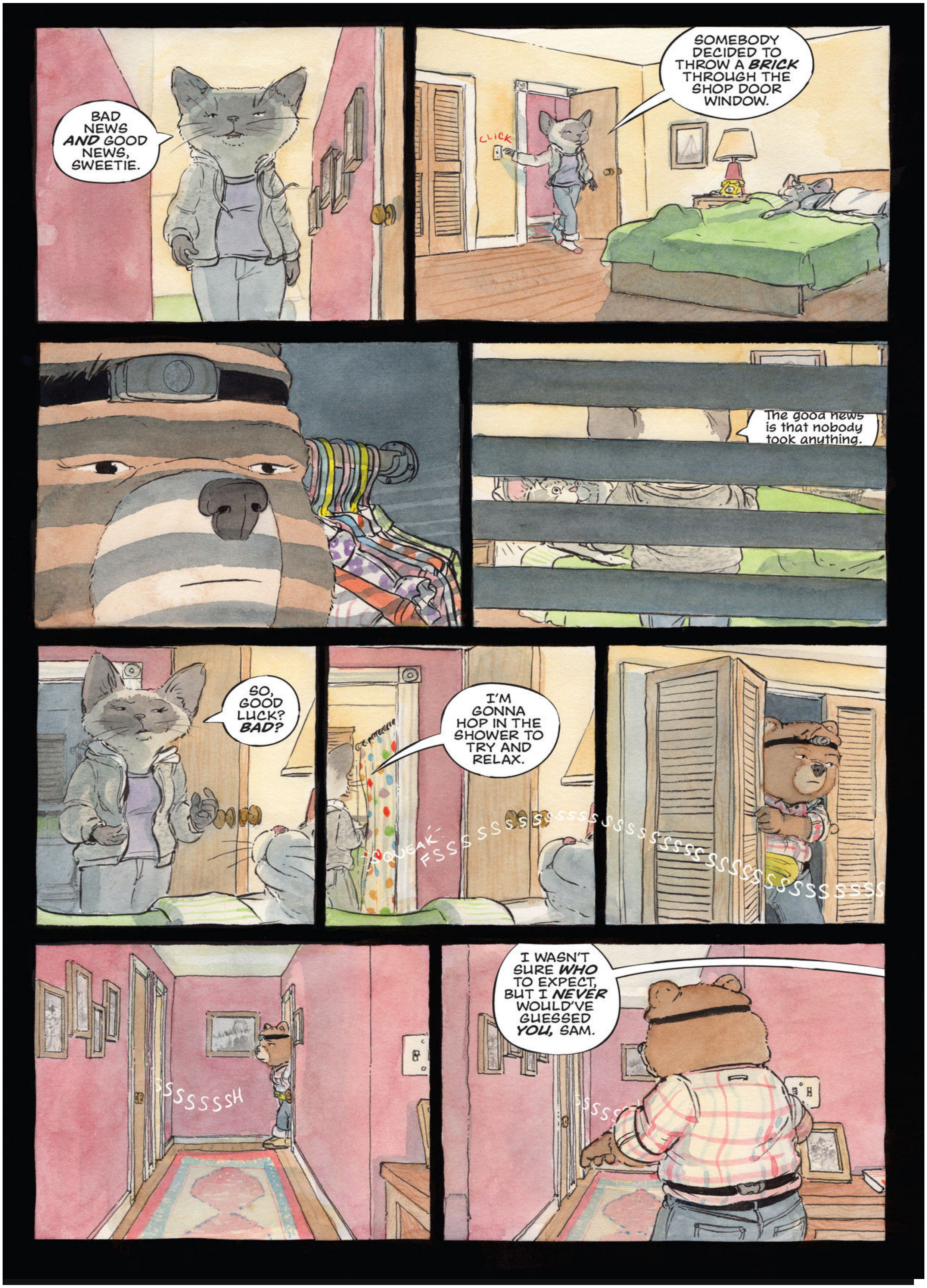

KRESSH
Everything PICKLED!
CHOPPING BLOCK
BUTCHERY
BRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRING
Hmmm?
YES, THIS IS SHE...
Oh, THE *SHOP?* RIGHT *NOW?* I'M ON MY WAY, THANK YOU.
SWEETIE, I HAVE TO GO. THERE'S BEEN A BREAK-IN AT THE SHOP.
SCOOP
CH-WUT-WUT

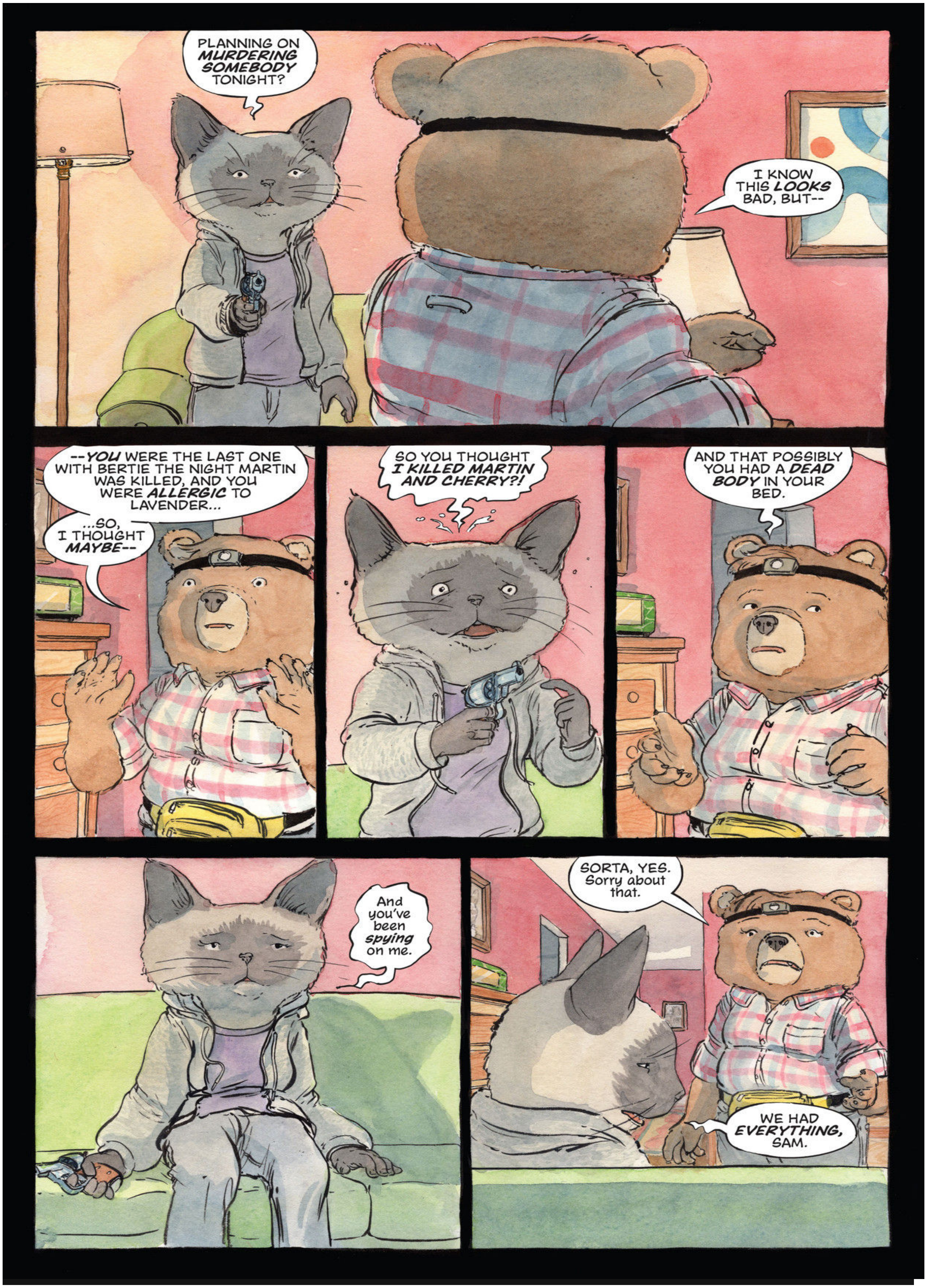

VROOOOM
zzzzzzip
THUMP
jiggle
jiggle
jiggle
CLICK

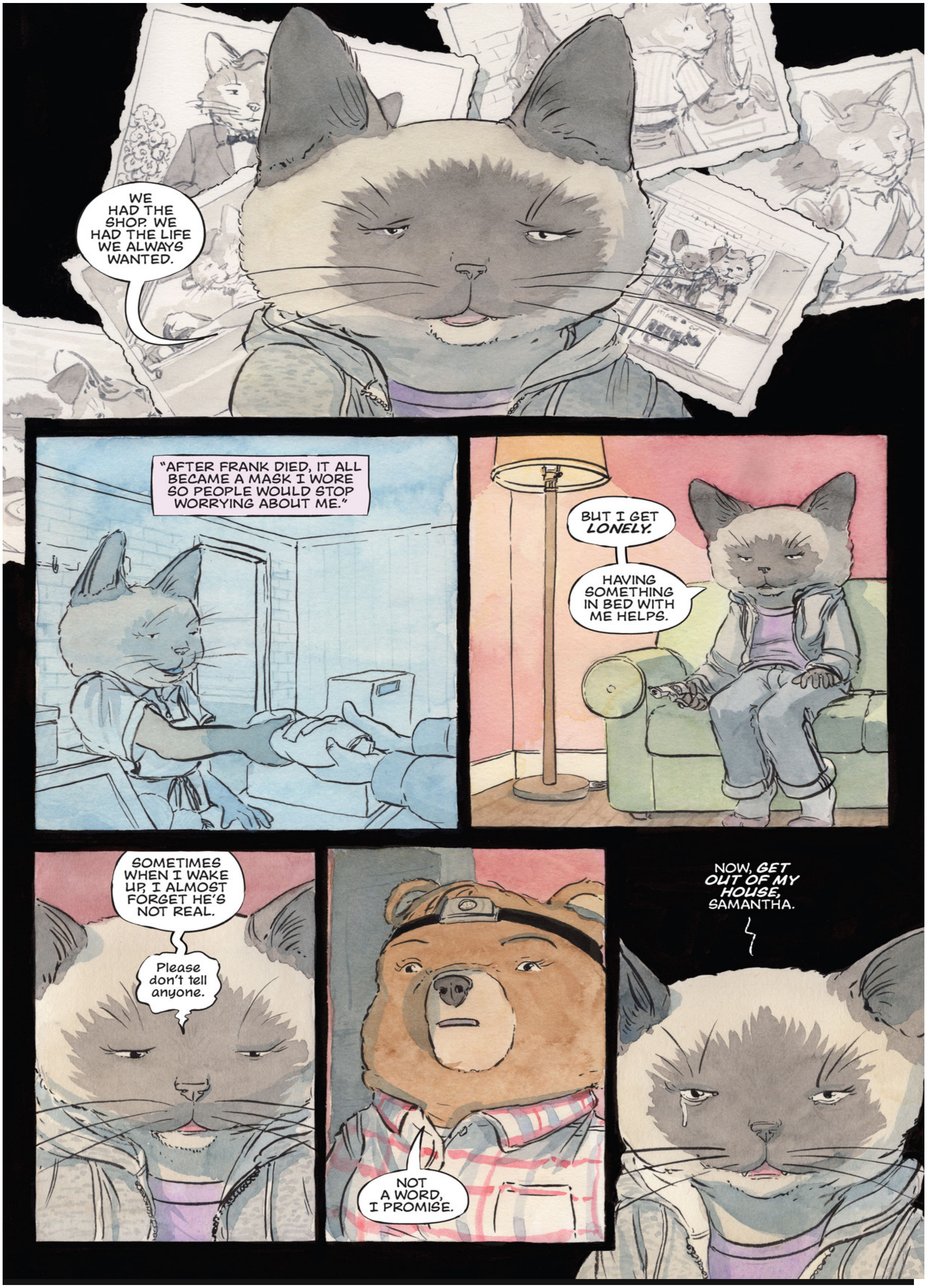

CLICK
Hmmm.

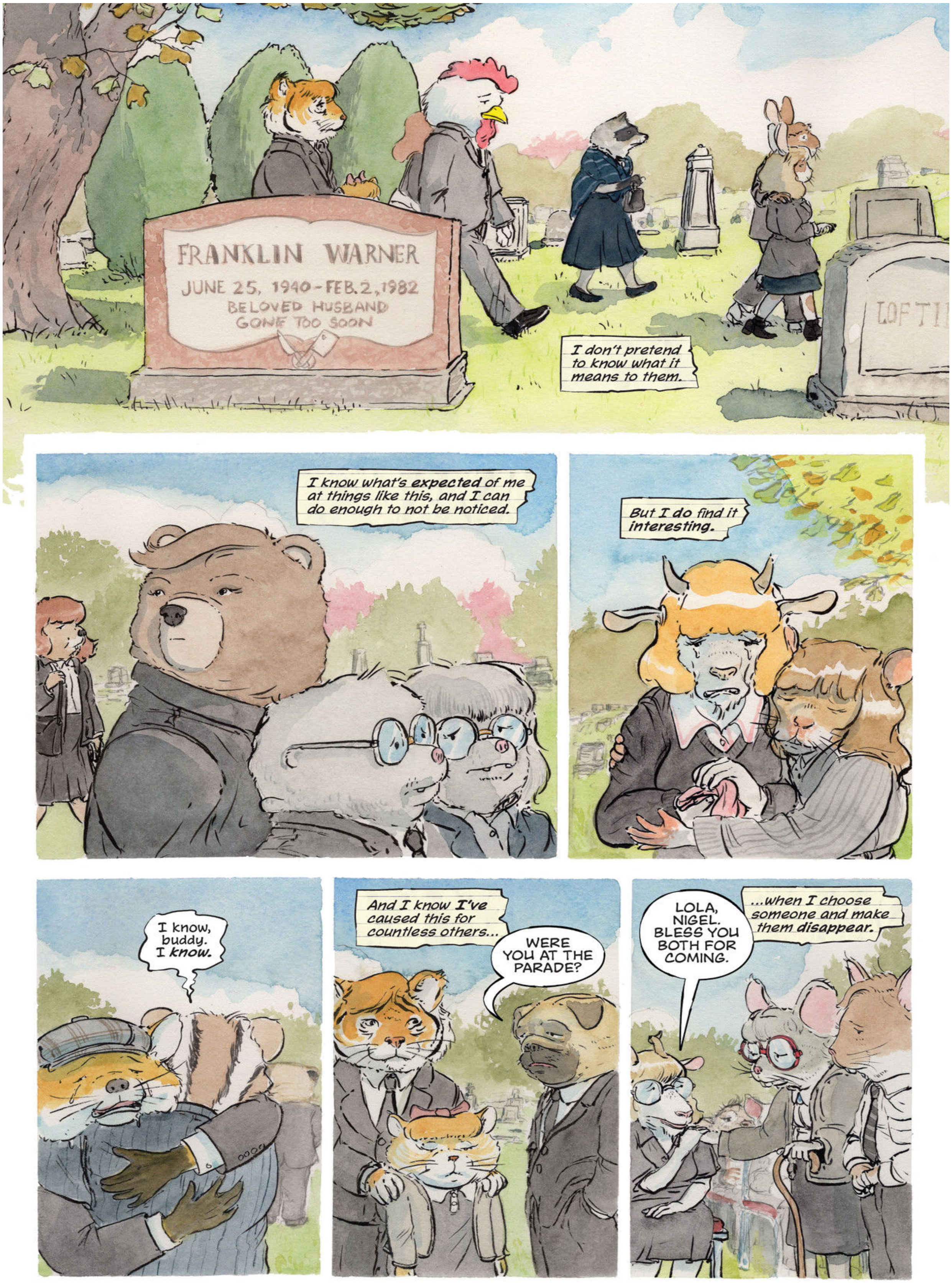

Is this... FELT?
Bathroom...
CLICK

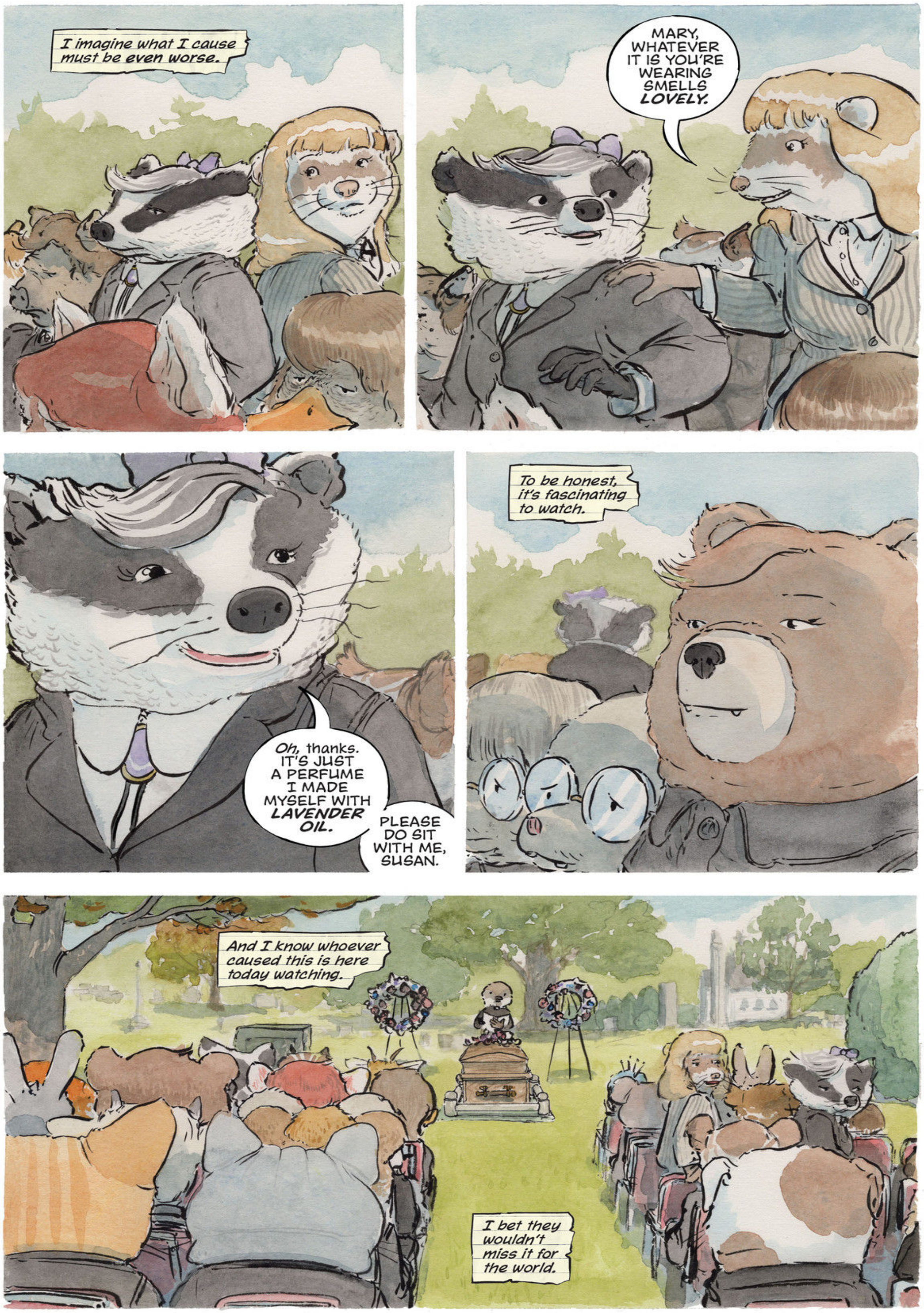

CREEEEEEEEEEAK
Oh, I see.
That's a pretty good likeness.
KA-CHUNK
CLICK

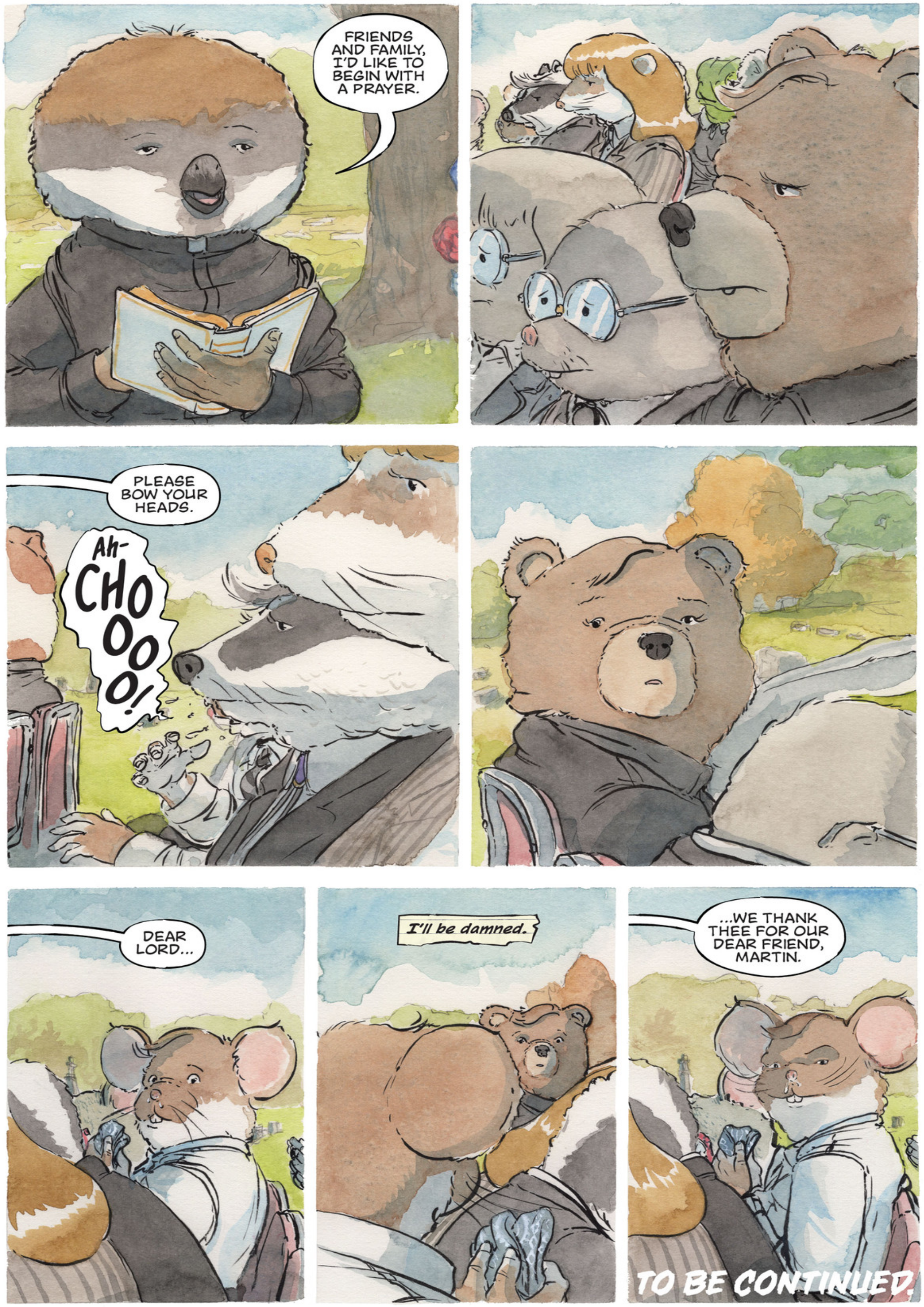

BAD NEWS *AND* GOOD NEWS, SWEETIE.
CLICK
SOMEBODY DECIDED TO THROW A *BRICK* THROUGH THE SHOP DOOR WINDOW.
The good news is that nobody took anything.
SO, GOOD LUCK? *BAD?*
I'M GONNA HOP IN THE SHOWER TO TRY AND RELAX.
SQUEAK
FSSS SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS
SSSSSSSH
I WASN'T SURE *WHO* TO EXPECT, BUT I *NEVER* WOULD'VE GUESSED *YOU,* SAM.
SSSSS


PLANNING ON *MURDERING SOMEBODY* TONIGHT?
I KNOW THIS *LOOKS* BAD, BUT--
--*YOU* WERE THE LAST ONE WITH BERTIE THE NIGHT MARTIN WAS KILLED, AND YOU WERE *ALLERGIC* TO LAVENDER...
...SO, I THOUGHT *MAYBE*--
SO YOU THOUGHT *I KILLED MARTIN AND CHERRY?!*
AND THAT POSSIBLY YOU HAD A *DEAD BODY* IN YOUR BED.
And you've been *spying* on me.
SORTA, YES. Sorry about that.
WE HAD *EVERYTHING,* SAM.

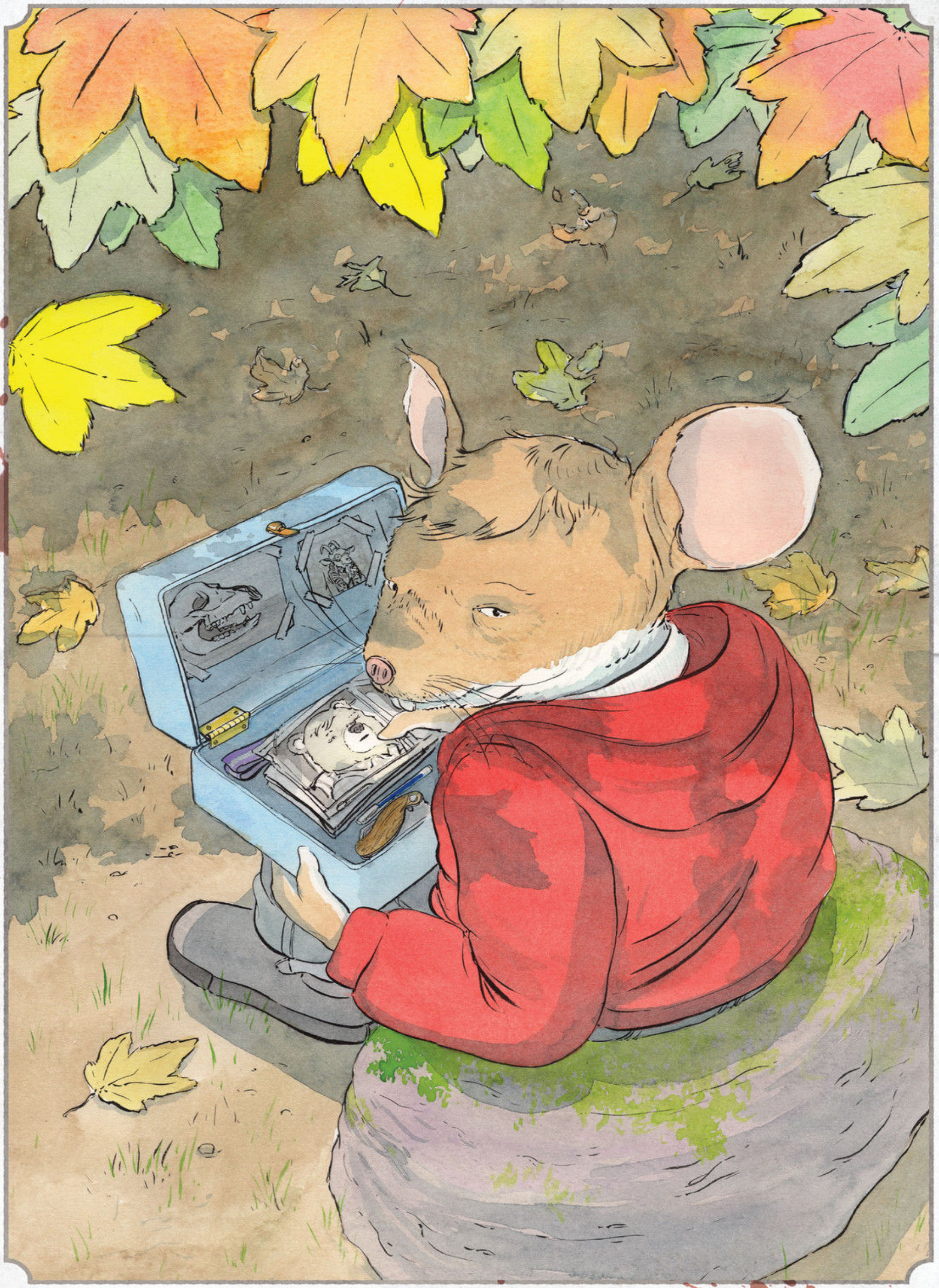

WE HAD THE SHOP. WE HAD THE LIFE WE ALWAYS WANTED.
"AFTER FRANK DIED, IT ALL BECAME A MASK I WORE SO PEOPLE WOULD STOP WORRYING ABOUT ME."
BUT I GET *LONELY.*
HAVING SOMETHING IN BED WITH ME HELPS.
SOMETIMES WHEN I WAKE UP, I ALMOST FORGET HE'S NOT REAL.
Please don't tell anyone.
NOT A WORD, I PROMISE.
NOW, *GET OUT OF MY HOUSE,* SAMANTHA.

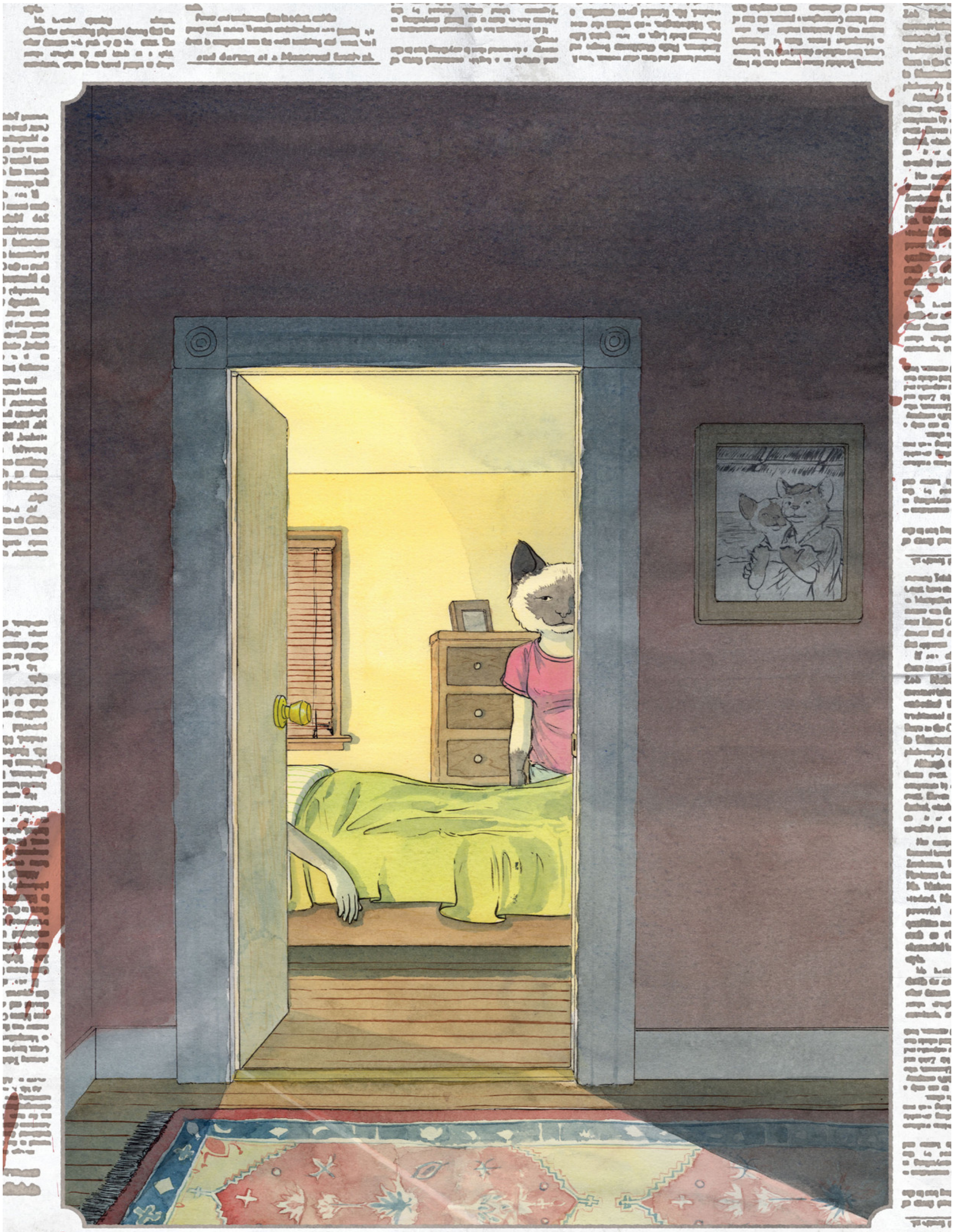

FRANKLIN WARNER
JUNE 25, 1940 - FEB. 2, 1982
BELOVED HUSBAND
GONE TOO SOON
LOFTI
I don't pretend to know what it means to them.
I know what's **expected** of me at things like this, and I can do enough to not be noticed.
But I **do** find it **interesting.**
I know, buddy. I ***know.***
And I know ***I've*** caused this for countless others...
WERE YOU AT THE PARADE?
LOLA, NIGEL. BLESS YOU BOTH FOR COMING.
...when I choose someone and make them ***disappear.***


I imagine what I cause must be even worse.
MARY, WHATEVER IT IS YOU'RE WEARING SMELLS ***LOVELY.***
Oh, thanks. IT'S JUST A PERFUME I MADE MYSELF WITH ***LAVENDER OIL.***
PLEASE DO SIT WITH ME, SUSAN.
To be honest, it's fascinating to watch.
And I know whoever caused this is here today watching.
I bet they wouldn't miss it for the world.


FRIENDS AND FAMILY, I'D LIKE TO BEGIN WITH A PRAYER.
PLEASE BOW YOUR HEADS.
Ah-CHOOOOO!
DEAR LORD...
I'll be damned.
...WE THANK THEE FOR OUR DEAR FRIEND, MARTIN.
TO BE CONTINUED.

NEXT ISSUE



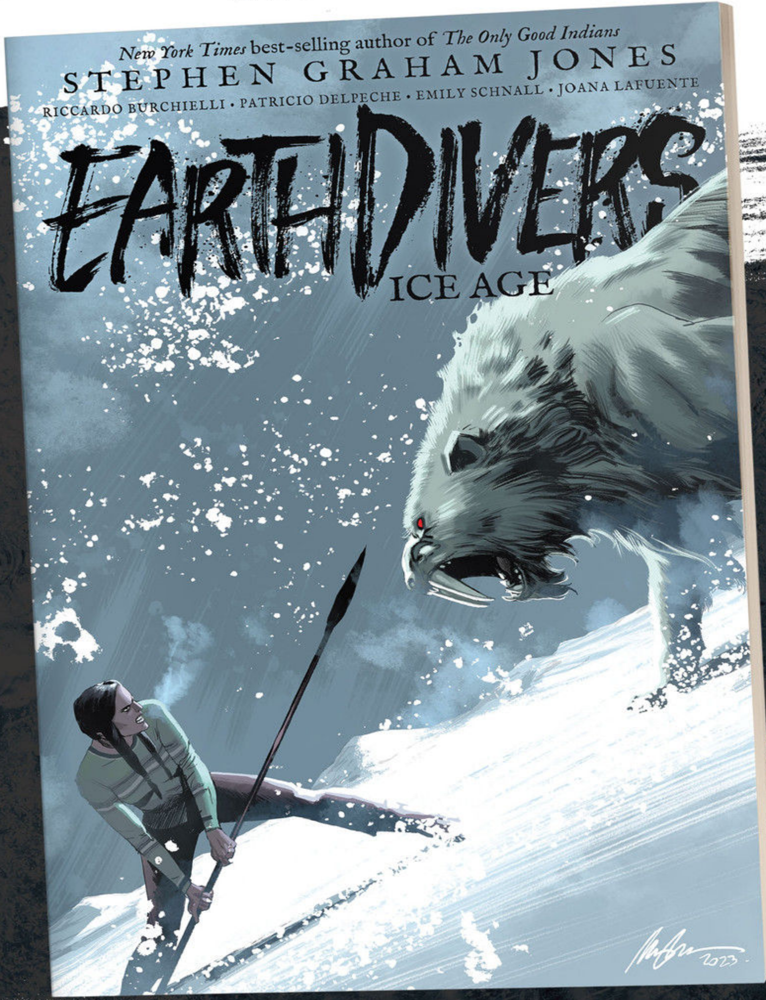


ARTWORK BY
PATRICK HORVATH

ARTWORK BY

RILEY ROSSMO

TWENTY THOUSAND YEARS CAN'T STOP A MOTHER'S LOVE


New York Times best-selling author of The Only Good Indians
STEPHEN GRAHAM JONES
RICCARDO BURCHIELLI · PATRICIO DELPECHE · EMILY SCHNALL · JOANA LAFUENTE
EARTHDIVERS
ICE AGE

EARTHDIVERS, VOL. 2: ICE AGE

Guest artists Riccardo Burchielli (*DMZ*), Patricio Delpeche, and Emily Schnall join Stephen Graham Jones—New York Times best-selling author of *The Only Good Indians* and *My Heart Is a Chainsaw*—for a mission to the Ice Age exploring America's pre-Columbian past in the next chapter of the critically acclaimed sci-fi epic *Earthdivers*!

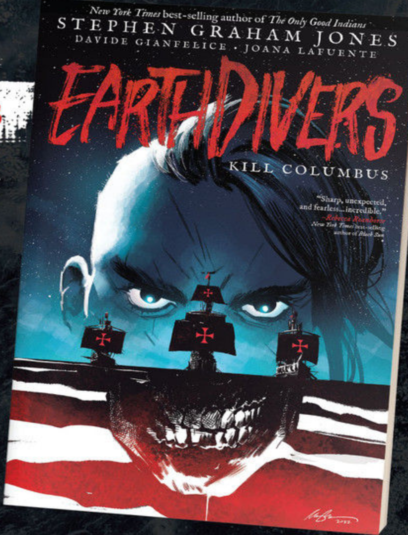
AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 2024

AVAILABLE NOW

EARTHDIVERS, VOL. 1: KILL COLUMBUS

Struggling to survive a dystopian future, a group of Indigenous outcasts embark on a mission through time to kill Christopher Columbus and change America's history!

> "Boldly, brashly challenges historical convention."
> - *Comic Watch*


New York Times best-selling author of The Only Good Indians
STEPHEN GRAHAM JONES
DAVIDE GIANFELICE · JOANA LAFUENTE
EARTHDIVERS
KILL COLUMBUS

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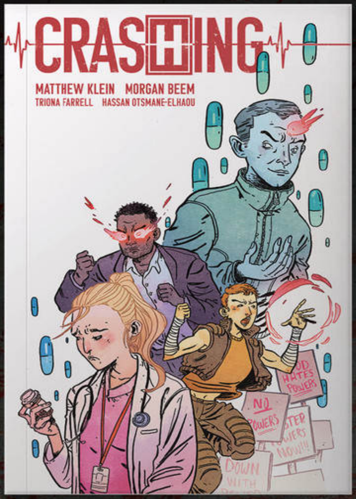
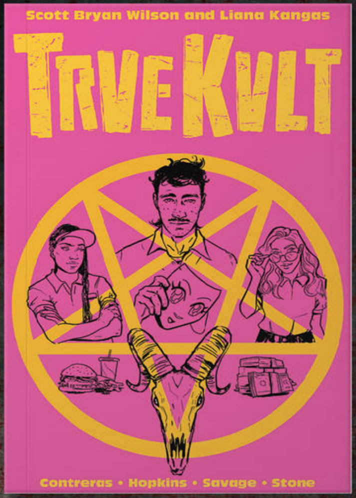
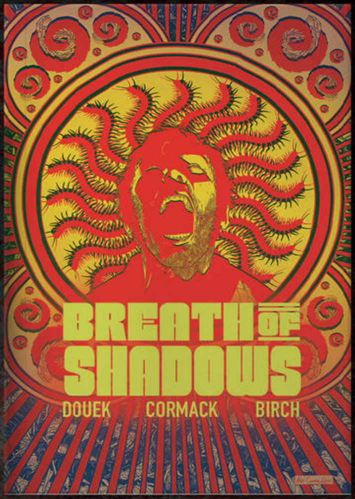

CRASHING
MATTHEW KLEIN MORGAN BEEM
TRIONA FARRELL HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU
NO POWERS
DOWN WITH

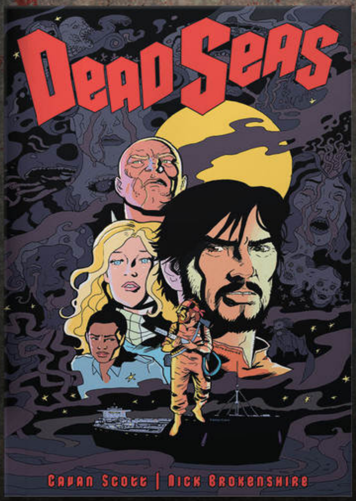

Scott Bryan Wilson and Liana Kangas
TRVE KVLT
Contreras • Hopkins • Savage • Stone

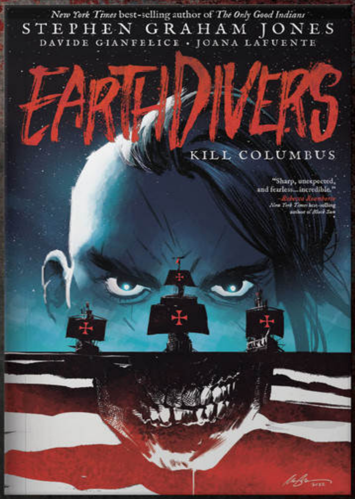

BREATH OF SHADOWS
DOUEK CORMACK BIRCH

SIX CAPTIVATING COLLECTIONS
SURE TO KEEP YOU UP AT NIGHT

AVAILABLE NOW

SCOTT SNYDER
HAYDEN SHERMAN
RONDA PATTISON
DARK SPACES
WILDFIRE


Dead Seas
Cavan Scott | Nick Brokenshire


New York Times best-selling author of The Only Good Indians
STEPHEN GRAHAM JONES
DAVIDE GIANFELICE • JOANA LAFUENTE
EARTHDIVERS
KILL COLUMBUS
"Sharp, unexpected, and fearless... incredible."

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IDW VIEW FROM THE BACK PAGE

Ellen, please distribute to the staff immediately.

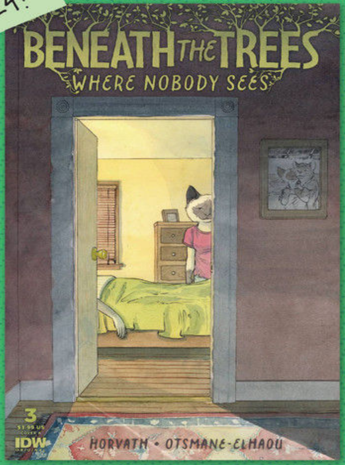
- Talk to some artists about doing some TURTLES comics for the 40th anniversary!
- Same, but for Godzilla. The King of the Monsters is turning 70!!!
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS is gonna be 50. How about a year of D&D: SATURDAY MORNING ADVENTURES?

- Get quotes for BENEATH THE TREES WHERE NOBODY SEES plushies!
- Ask Riley about new My Little Pony miniseries concepts
- When is STAR TREK: LOWER DECKS coming back?
- Remind Dunbier about this summer's ROCKETEER. Also ask him to show me some of the art for the next Artist's Editions

- Catch up with Sonic the Hedgehog. He's got a big year ahead. (Knuckles' 30th birthday!)
- Don't forget to tell everyone about GOLGOTHA MOTOR MOUNTAIN
- Get Staros to write one of these back pages about Top Shelf!
- ☆THE LAST RONIN II !!!!
- It's never too early to think about SDCC. New ideas, new concepts, new formats?

Jamie S. Rich
editor-in-chief, IDW

ON SALE 01/31/24!


BENEATH THE TREES
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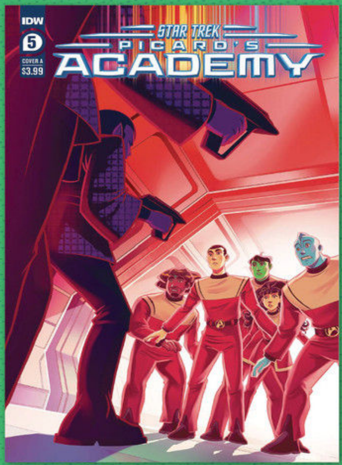
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5
COVER A
$3.99
STAR TREK
PICARD'S ACADEMY